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AND

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### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*The History of the Temple of Jerusalem; translated from the Arabic MS. of the Imâm Jalâl-Addîn al Siâtî. With Notes and Dissertations. By the Rev. James Reynolds, B.A., &c. 8vo. pp. 551. Published under the auspices of the Oriental Translation Fund. London, 1836. Valpy.*

WE are, of course, glad to receive any accession to the sources of our knowledge, and, with this feeling, welcome the work before us. Its actual value on the points of history, however, seems somewhat problematical. Though it often reminds us of the narrative of Rabbi-ben-Joseph, which we noticed some months since, yet it bears but a partial analogy to that of the Jewish chronicler, narrating events with even more than his prejudice and intolerant spirit, and blending history and legend into one confused rhapsody of thought and language, strongly recalling the tone of the Koran to our minds. Much of what is here offered is also familiar to us in already existing accounts, though it is frequently given with greater detail than in the extracts (such as D'Herbelot's) to which we refer. On the other hand, it contains, necessarily, much of local information which could not be expected elsewhere; and in this the principal merit of the volume consists—except, indeed, the valuable notes appended by the translator, and his remarks on Muhammadanism, towards the close of the volume.

The locality has become the more interesting to us from the beautiful panorama lately exhibited in London, which displayed so advantageously the glories of the two principal mosques, noticed in the following extract from the Preface, and which so clearly and concisely explains the nature of the volume, so well illustrated by Mr. Reynolds:—

“The following work, entitled ‘Choice Gifts existing in the advantages of the Masjid-ul-Aksa,’ includes an account of the history and antiquities of that renowned Muhammadan basilica, as well as of the adjoining Al Sakhrâ: it contains, also, historical and traditional notices of the Holy City of Jerusalem, wherein these places of worship are situated, and of Palestine and Syria, the scene of early Muhammadan success.”

The different names attached to the two MSS. noticed in page viii. of this Preface, are clearly and satisfactorily accounted for (see page xiii.), in a manner which early demonstrate the learned editor's claim on the reader's confidence. On the singularity of Egypt furnishing so many valuable writers on Arabian history, he observes:—

“That remarkable country had long been the prey of civil convulsions, subjected to the rule of strangers, and often deprived of the advantages of political independence: but it was favoured in other respects: Egypt was a sort of debatable land, wherein the contending zealots of Muhammadan sects met upon more common ground. The *soi-disant* Fâtemite Khalifs, whilst they naturally professed considerable respect for Ali, endeavoured to connect this reverence with a degree of acquiescence in those opinions which the Muhammadans of the Sunna regarded as orthodox.” And “this

degree of liberty of conscience, and freedom of deliberation, may possibly have had the effect of enlarging the mind and expanding the thoughts of the Egyptians. Certain it is, that to them we owe some of the most interesting, eminent, and intelligent of the Arabic writers.”

We cordially agree with the sentiments expressed in the following passage on Oriental writers:—

“We may well imagine that these works possess much interest. Eastern history sometimes perplexes the mind, which experiences difficulty in following the rapid vicissitudes it presents: yet, there is something extremely winning and delightful in those lively records of brilliant exploits and ever-varying changes,—dynasties planted and uprooted, vast conquests and fast-following ruin, battle, bravery, grandeur, pride, caprice, fanaticism, degradation, and misery. Much of the curious annals of the various Muhammadan dynasties founded in different regions of the world remains yet to be presented to the public, and it is surprising that it should so remain. On Oriental poetry a variation of opinion will prevail. Scarcely understood, injudiciously translated, the poetical productions of the East have met with admirers, who have hastily challenged for them a reputation which was indignantly denied as undue: thus claiming more than they deserved, the Eastern poets were awarded a rank below their true merits. But Oriental history may justly claim the suffrages of all. The Eastern historians are not always chargeable with turgid and exaggerated diction: they will often be found to relate the remarkable facts they record with considerable simplicity and clearness: they are annalists, who, relating facts sincerely and correctly, reserve their rhetorical flourishes to adorn their own reflections and digressions.”

To this we would add the remark, that the system still followed by Eastern poetical translators, of partially adopting the style of their originals to European taste, and rendering other portions closely, has had the double effect of misleading our judgments in the main, and of rendering the faults and errors of taste in those compositions more striking and outrageous, by unfounded contrasts. Will no one correct this?

On the passage, “The respect offered to the Kaaba was of a different nature, and appears to have been rather a perversion of that sacred and peculiar principle, which enjoined the Israelites to pay due regard to the place which the Deity ‘had chosen to put his Name there,’”—we would observe, that it is questionable whether this was, in reality, the perversion of an *Israelitish* principle. The *beth*, or dwelling-place, and the ark, or some equivalent to both, appear to have been the favourite idea of all nations, from Egypt previous to the Exodus, to the wild inhabitants of the South Sea islands.

As to the value of the work before us, which Mr. Reynolds seems disposed to rate so high, in regard to Syro-Arabic antiquities and history, we must profess some doubts. Though it is scarcely possible to determine what sparks the labour of some learned Prometheus may yet strike out from such hard materials, we fear the black stone of the Kaaba can never again

become a *white stone* of propitious augury in the progress of discoveries.

At page iii. of the Introduction, Mr. Reynolds must excuse our objecting to the term *witness*—it is obscure; for what author (except the Great Author of all) could pretend to *witness*, in the usual sense, the pilgrimage to heaven on the night of Al-therog—confessedly performed by the prophet alone of mankind?

We must observe here, on the orthography of the name Borak, so spelt at this page, and elsewhere Burak, that the desideratum of a uniform spelling for Eastern words cannot be attained, till the European nations consent to form a character for the Oriental short vowels, or rather vocalic sounds, distinct from the usual vowel forms used in our own quarter of the globe. When each Western nation differs from its brethren on this point, how can all agree on the Eastern representatives of the sounds? The points are as cumbersome as barbarous; and since they have failed in the East, and produce endless confusion there, how can they be expected to produce accuracy, as some would persuade us, in the West? With ourselves, the vowels are taken at random constantly; *a, e, i, o, u*, are continually substituted (why we know not) for each other: and hence one half the errors of orthography are naturally transferred in our minds to geography and history; and the coincidences that would frequently strike us on these and similar points, are thus perpetually lost or obscured, because we are reforming the orthography of others, instead of attending to our own, and are fain to change the very habits of foreign countries, and efface their systems, in order to preserve our fables.

Noticing, *en passant*, the want of an index and table of contents, we observe, at the outset of the history, the amusing mixture of legendary confusion with grammatical nicety, that characterises the derivations of the names of the temple, and which (may we venture to affirm it?) is so characteristic, also, of Arabian writers in general. The passage at page 14, relative to the temple as a centre to the world, and the necessity every where inculcated of a pilgrimage to some one holy building, or shrine, seems to us illustrative in some degree of the object for which the Tower of Babel was founded. This is, or rather was, we suspect, the rallying point of union for scattered votaries of one creed.

Our extracts from this volume must be bold; for we would fain point attention to some of the most prominent instances where imagination has supplied to ignorance the marvels of genii forms, and extravagant, and even dull traditions, that the reader may compare these with the authorised statements of the sacred books; and learn for himself to examine into and philosophise upon the probability of Arabian tradition. We ourselves distinctly question all the mooted points that the vaunted—we fear, vainly vaunted—learning, or phantasy, of the Arab supplies. We are strongly disposed to call in question his facts, wherever they appear, and his conclusions from those facts, whenever these last are found to be correct. His bold assertions of a pure descent, an

unadulterated tongue, and an especial origin, are, to our minds, not only not borne out, but absolutely contradicted, by the very records adduced to vouch for their truth. We have been satisfied in our halls of learning, to admire, if not to embrace, these reiterated assertions of the Bedouins; but where rest the proofs of their claims? They have them not; and shall we give unlimited credence on these points to the fabricators of statements like these we now offer?

"Thus, therefore, he built it; but, dying before it was completed, he enjoined Solomon to build it, who built it, and finished it. Now, with regard to all the transactions of Solomon in building this, we are told as follows:—When God revealed unto Solomon that he should build him a temple, Solomon assembled all the wisest men, genii, and Afrites of the earth, and the mightiest of the devils; and appointed one division of them to build, another to cut blocks and columns from the marble-mines, and another to dive into the ocean-deeps, and fetch therefrom pearls and coral. Now, some of these pearls were like ostrich's or hen's eggs. So he began to build the temple: but the building was found not to be firm; therefore he ordered it to be pulled down. Then he dug down into the earth until he came to the water. Then he began to found it upon the water: and they cast great stones into the water, which the water cast out again. Then Solomon called for the very best of his wise men, at the head of whom was Asaph, son of Barachias, and said, give me your advice. Then they said, We think that thou shouldst take a pitcher of brass; then fill it with stones; then write upon it the writing which is upon thy signet-ring; then cast the pitcher into the water. Thus, then, they did; and the pitcher fixed the foundation. Then they cast earth and stones thereupon, and built until the building attained some height. Then were the devils distributed by him into different sorts of labour; who were constantly engaged in the work. And he appointed one section of them to cut the quarries of jacinth and emerald. Thus they brought various kinds of precious stones. Also, the devils made highly polished cemented blocks of marble for the walls of the Mosque: and whenever they cut from the quarry a block or a column, the first of them threw it from him, and the nearest to him did the same, and so, one after the other, until it at last arrived at the Mosque. He also appointed a division of them to cut white marble; some of which was in the quarry, as white as milk, of that kind which is called adamant; but this was not like the adamant which is now to be seen in cities, in the hands of men, and is so named. This was from an adamantine quarry belonging to an Afrite of the devils; which mine was in one of the islands of the ocean-deeps. Now these men were subject unto Solomon: therefore he sent unto this Afrite a letter, sealed with a signet-ring of iron, for his signet-ring was composed of brass and iron; with the brass he sealed his commands to the genii, and with iron to the devils. Now, this signet-ring had come down unto him from heaven: its exterior setting was white, but the part where-with he impressed the seal was like blinding lightning: no one could long bear to look upon it. Now, therefore, when this mandate came to the Afrite, and he had come to Solomon, Solomon said unto him, Have you no device whereby to cut stones? for I hate the sound of iron in this our mosque. Then said the Afrite unto him, I know not in the heavens a bird

stronger than the eagle, nor one more acute in expedients. So he set out to examine this eagle, and found a nest, wherein were some young eagles. Then they covered this nest over with a thick iron case. Then the eagle, coming unto her nest, and finding the iron case, began to strike on it, from above, with her feet, in order to push it away, or to break it: but not succeeding in this, she whirled and soared aloft into the sky, and, having delayed a day and a night, returned with a piece of adamant. Then the devils frightened her away, and, taking it from her, brought it unto Solomon; and by this adamant were the great stones cut. Moreover, we learn as follows, from Wahab:—When Solomon wished to build the consecrated house, he said unto the devils, God hath commanded me to build him a house, wherein there shall not be one stone cut by iron. Therefore they said, No one has power in this matter, except a certain devil, who dwells in the ocean-deeps, and who has a certain fountain, whither he comes to drink. They repaired, then, to this drinking-place, and, emptying all the water, put wine in its place. Thus did they; so, when this devil came to drink, he found out the smell, and said, Shall I drink, or shall I not drink? But, however, being vehemently urged by thirst, he drank, and was captured. Now, whilst they were on the road, they met with a man buying garlic for onions; on which the devil laughed: then they passed by a woman telling fortunes by art magic to the people; upon which the devil laughed again. When, therefore, they brought him to Solomon, they informed the latter of the devil's laughter; and he demanding the cause, he replied, I passed a man who was buying the disease with the remedy; and I passed a woman telling fortunes, whilst beneath her was a treasure, of which she knew nothing. He informed this devil, therefore, of the business of the building, who thereupon ordered a caldron of brass to be brought, which none had ever breathed upon; which they having brought, he said, Cast it over the young of a vulture. This they did. When, therefore, the vulture came to her young, and could not approach them, she soared up, and went aloft into the breezes of heaven; then she descended, bringing a tortoise in her beak, which she placed upon the caldron, and thus broke it. They, therefore, making up to this tortoise, took it, and cut the stones therewith. Now, the number of men who co-operated with Solomon in building the sacred abode was thirty thousand: ten thousand of these were occupied in cutting wood. Those, also, who worked in stone were in number seventy thousand men: of these, three hundred were clerks of the works. All these, in addition to the genii and the devils, pressed for the work. Solomon, moreover, raised pillars therein, which no one can describe, and at the number of which no one can arrive: these he adorned with gold and silver, and pearls, and jacinth, and coral, and various precious stones. In like manner he adorned the roofs, and the pavement, the gates, the skirting-boards, and the cornices; so that nothing was ever beheld like unto it. He placed herein also one hundred bolts of gold; each bolt (or lock) weighing ten pounds. Herein, also, he hid the ark of Moses and Aaron."

We give, in consonance with our previous scepticism, the following *elucidation* of the four rivers of Paradise:—"From below the rock of the holy abode flow four rivers of Paradise—Seehan, and Geehan, and Al Nil, and Al Furat. Now, Seehan is the river of Balkh—the Oxus, in Khorassan; Geehan is the river Ti-

gris; Al Nil is the Egyptian Nile; and Al Furat is Euphrates—the river of Kufa."

We are in the humour for comparative studies, and take the following to conclude with for the present:—"Now, with regard to the chain, which is among the miracles of the exterior surface of the glorious rock in the Baitu-l-Mukaddas, \* \* \* there were two Jewish men, one of whom confided to the other one hundred denars; which sum he reclaimed; but the other denied that he had it; which affair caused the removal of the chain: for the one, a Jew, in his fraud, and wickedness, and craftiness, had melted down the denars, and, hollowing out a stick, placed them therein. When, therefore, he came to the spot where the chain was, he gave the stick to the owner of the denars, and laid hold of the chain, swearing by God that he had restored them. Then the owner of the denars gave the stick back, and, going forward, took hold of the chain, swore that he had never received them, and the chain touched both of them: upon which, the people were surprised beyond measure. From that day, the chain was removed. Before this, whoever spoke the truth, could touch the chain, but whoever spoke folly, saw it rise up, and could not reach it."

Cervantes, doubtless, learned this tale during his captivity.

(To be continued.)

*Correspondence of Horace Walpole. A New Edition. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1837. Colburn.*

HORACE WALPOLE is the Homer of letter-writers; he condenses the whole spirit of his age: kings, warriors, beauties, live again in his pages. The Duke of Cumberland is his Achilles; the Duchess of Kingston, his Helen; Lady Carteret, his Juno; and the Gunnings, his Graces. Reading his *Correspondence* is like living in his day: you believe that you have heard George Selwyn's *bon-mots*; and you are ready to vouch for Lady Aylesbury's beauty: you take a personal interest in the progress of Strawberry Hill; and, as to Ranelagh, you know every inch of it. This collection of letters is delightful; but we shall confine our selection to a few of the notes now added for the first time.

*The celebrated Fruit-girl.*—"Betty Neale, who for many years lived in St. James's Street, in a small house with a bow-window, on the western side, afterwards occupied by Martin-dale. It had not the appearance of a shop, but was exactly as it now is. It had been built by subscription for her, and was, in fact, the rendezvous of the opposition party, who met at her house every day. She never admitted chance customers; and one day, upon Colonel Luttrell's calling and asking for fruit, Betty desired him to walk out, as she only kept fruit for particular persons. Betty Neale was greatly in the confidence of the heads of the opposition party, and often employed by them in gaining intelligence."

*Dresses of the Time.*—"In a publication of this period (1755) mention is made of a most magnificent ball having been given in February by the Russian ambassador, in Somerset House, at which were present his majesty, and the royal family; they went first to visit the Duchess of Norfolk in St. James's Square, who received masks that evening. The king went at eight, and retired at eleven o'clock (what a contrast with the present hours of fashionable assemblies!) He was dressed in a black domino, tye wig, and gold laced hat. The Princess of Wales, in a blue and silver robe, and her head finely ornamented with jewels.

The Prince of Wales (George III.), in a pink and silver dress, with a large plume of feathers on his head. Prince Edward (Duke of York, who died 1767), in a pink satin waistcoat, with a black belt adorned with diamonds. Princess Augusta, in a rich gold stuff. The duke was in a Turkish dress, with a large bunch of diamonds in his turban."

*A Delicate Attention.*—"The Count de Haslang was for very many years minister from Bavaria to the British court. He appeared to be of a great age; but so anxious about his person, that one of the ridiculous *on-dits* of the day (some fifty or sixty years ago) was—that, to preserve his forehead from wrinkles, he slept every night with a *raw veal cutlet* bandaged upon it."

*A Wedding.*—"Lady Rochford was the daughter of Edward Young, Esq., and had been maid of honour to the Princess of Wales. She was a beauty, and, to the end of her days, an exceedingly fine woman. Lord Rochford had paid her attention for a considerable time without coming to a declaration, till, one night that he was with her at Vauxhall, some of the ladies belonging to the household of the princess, as they passed Miss Young, sneered, and made remarks so wounding to her feelings, that she burst into tears; and Lord Rochford, indignant at this illiberal and unmerited treatment, made her an immediate offer of his hand, and the next morning she became Countess of Rochford."

*Rival Caricaturists.*—"Lord Townshend was very fond of drawing caricatures, in which he excelled. He published a set of twelve, to which he affixed the name of Austin, a drawing-master; but well known not to have been done by him. Whilst Lord Townshend was lord-lieutenant of Ireland, he had an aide-de-camp, who was not far inferior to his lordship in drawing caricatures. His name was Captain Teasdale. One day that Teasdale was the aide-de-camp in waiting, and sitting at the foot of the vice-regal table, he observed Lord Townshend taking a sketch of his face, which was by no means remarkable for beauty: Teasdale immediately took his pencil from his pocket and drew a portrait of the lord-lieutenant, who was too much engaged with his own drawing to perceive what his aide-de-camp was about. Lord Townshend, greatly satisfied with his performance, handed it to the person who sat on his right hand; and Teasdale, at the same moment, presented the portrait of the lord-lieutenant to his nearest neighbour at the bottom of the table on his right hand; and the two caricatures simultaneously made the tour of the table. Lord Townshend took it with great good humour, and was not offended."

*Supplies from Quakers.*—"The lieutenant-governor of Pennsylvania (Mr. Morris) had ineffectually urged the assembly of that province to grant a sum of money, and pass a bill for raising a regiment of militia for its defence against the French; who, with a large body of Indians, were committing great cruelties in the back-settlements, some of which they had destroyed, and massacred the inhabitants; but the assembly, being chiefly composed of Quakers, used their utmost endeavours to oppose the governor's views, alleging that it was contrary to their tenets to make preparations of a warlike nature, and that the province of Philadelphia being under the immediate protection of heaven, it was unnecessary to take any steps to prevent the entrance into it of the French. The Quakers resisted all the attempts of the lieutenant-governor, till, on the 19th of November, 1755, several hundreds of the back-settlers arrived at Philadelphia, with a wagon-

load of the dead bodies of their friends, who had been murdered and scalped by the Indians, only sixty miles from the city. The lieutenant-governor, to whom they first applied, assured them of his readiness to afford them every relief and assistance in his power—shewed them an order from Governor Penn for a large sum of money, as his gift for the defence of the province, and referred them to the assembly for the necessary supplies. They proceeded immediately to the stadt-house with the wagon, and, at the door of the assembly-house, laid down the bodies of their wives, children, and friends; using, at the same time, such imprecations and threatenings against the assembly, as at once had the desired effect; and a grant of 60,000*l.*, and a militia-bill, passed without further demur or delay. 5000*l.* of the 60,000*l.* voted by the assembly was the gift of the proprietors, the Penn family."

*A Lost Lover.*—"Among the persons killed at St. Cas was Sir John Armitage. The fate of this gentleman was excessively lamented; he was a volunteer, but without having intended being one upon this expedition: his mind was far differently engaged, in making preparations for his approaching marriage with Miss Howe, sister of the three gallant brothers who successively bore the title of Lord Howe. Sir John went to the levee, at the time when officers and volunteers were taking leave of his majesty to join the army. The brave old king (whose mind was bent upon the expedition), supposing Sir John, who had been a volunteer upon a previous occasion, had still the same military spirit, asked him, 'When he meant to set out?' Taken, as he was, by surprise, Sir John answered, 'To-morrow;' and unhappily kept his word. The lady, several years after, married Sir William Pitt. A black collar, which she always wore around her neck, concealed a splendid brilliant necklace, given to her as a nuptial present by her ill-fated lover—a man very greatly and generally esteemed. He was member of parliament for York."

*Military Discipline.*—"General Townshend acted very improperly in receiving the surrender of Quebec, and a few days afterwards made an apology in writing to General Monkton; who, being his superior officer, had succeeded General Wolfe as commander-in-chief. King George II., who was a strict disciplinarian, was so much displeased that, when General Townshend, upon his return to England, attended for the first time at the levee to pay his respects to his majesty, the brave old king turned his back upon him, and was with some difficulty persuaded to speak to him. This assertion is not hazarded lightly: a very near relation of the editor was present at the levee, and witnessed the scene. Charles Townshend, upon this occasion, pushed his brother forward, till he succeeded in getting him spoken to by the king."

*The Duchess of Bolton.*—"Formerly Miss Fenton, the original Polly of the 'Beggars' Opera.' Charles, duke of Bolton, took her off the stage, and, after having children by her, married her. According to Walpole, 'after a life of merit, she relapsed into Pollyhood.' Two years before her death, she picked up an Irish surgeon at Tunbridge, who, when she was dying, sent for a lawyer to make her will; but he, finding who was to be her heir instead of her children, refused to draw it. Another less scrupulous was found, and she left her three sons a thousand pounds a-piece, and the surgeon about nine thousand."

*Nancy Dawson.*—"A very popular song at that time, which Walpole seems to have con-

sidered it as desirable not to hear; as John Cramer did some recent popular melodies, which in their day were equally intrusive. 'Remember,' said the musician to a footboy whom he was engaging, 'Remember there are two things I insist on—that you never let me hear you mention the name of Fauntleroy, or whistle a tune from the 'Freischütz.'"

*Angelic Deficiency.*—"A want of legs is not the only deficiency under which the cherubims labour, according to the capital story told of St. Cecilia. That saint was one day singing and playing on the organ, when the chapel was suddenly filled with cherubims, who kept fluttering round her as long as she continued her tuneful devotions. The saint, apprehensive that they must be tired, from the length of time which they had been poisoning themselves on their downy wings, addressed them with—'Asseyez-vous, mes enfans;' to which she received for answer, 'Merci, madame, merci; mais nous n'avons pas de quoi.'"

The present editor deserves to edit these volumes; and that is the highest compliment we can pay him: for never were there three of a pleasanter nature brought before the public. We may notice that Walpole frequently treads on the same ground with Wraxall, to whom the *Quarterly Review* has just given so severe a dressing. A letter from the Marquess of Wellesley, on the private habits and character of William Pitt, is one of the choicest morsels we have ever met with in periodical literature. We hope not to be misunderstood as classing Wraxall as an authority, even for court and fashionable gossip, with the entertaining and well-informed Walpole.

*The Duke of Monmouth.* By the Author of "The Munster Festivals," &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1836. Bentley.

The author of "The Collegians" is already well known to the public; for few fictions were more graphic or more original. The volumes now before us, if less strikingly new in situation, shew the same talent in a different line. Mr. Griffin has taken up the historical vein, and given a vivid picture of the beginning of James the Second's reign. The scene is chiefly in the west of England; and there is a terrible reality in the consequences of Monmouth's rebellion. We cannot, however, like the outline of the story—it is too revolting, though worked up with the writer's usual power. Many of the characters are drawn with great spirit; witness the introduction of Monmouth and his confederates.

"The duke was at this time in the very prime of youth, with a character of frankness on his handsome features that gave them striking brilliancy, yet somewhat curtailed of their dignity by a certain air of boyish, if not feminine softness. He seemed ever ready for a laugh, and ever sending his mild eyes around, as if to see that no one's jest should pass without his affable chorus. By this easiness of disposition, it happened, that even those who made their fortunes and their measures dependent upon his, were accustomed to use a degree of freedom in their familiar conversation that did not always suit the station of the respective speakers. The English nobleman who was occupied in the game with the duke was very different in appearance from that adventurous prince. Though scarcely inferior in beauty of person, the character of Lord Grey's countenance was rather forbidding than attractive. His hair hung down in jetty curls upon his shoulders; his eyes were dark and inquisitive in their expression, and his thin and sunken cheeks

betrayed a bosom not unacquainted with suspicion and with care. Naturally gifted with talents of no ordinary kind, and with a quick and vivacious temperament, he had debased the first to sensual uses, and allowed the second to degenerate into a quality the least creditable in the eyes of the world that can attach to the manly character. Lord Grey, however, although suspected of some lack of personal courage, had been hitherto prudent enough to avoid affording his enemies any opportunity of pointing more than an insinuation at his fame in this respect. His habitual courtesy, his perfect self-command, and his ever ready talent, enabled him to observe a line of conduct free from positive reproach; and those who were most in his society were the very persons who least suspected his feeble point. He was, however, only a consummate actor; and, while he laughed and jested amongst his dissolute companions, his breast was secretly tormented with the stings of conscience, and with the miserable fears of death. It was singular that a mind so much above the ordinary standard should share the vulgar subserviency to sensible impressions; yet it was certain that the nature of his fear resembled more the physical weakness of a woman or a child than that of a conscious coward, and the form in which death appeared was not to him the least important circumstance attending it. His subtle gift of flattery recommended him to the vain and feeble-minded Monmouth, who was much censured by the more penetrating and experienced amongst the exiles for admitting such a person to his confidence."

He and his adherents meet in council, when the ensuing scene takes place:—

"Gentlemen," said Monmouth, "let me beseech your attention for some moments. I give you hearty joy of this intelligence, which is, beyond all comparison, the best that has followed us since we left home. There is every prospect, now, of fair play for the country and for ourselves. The king, my royal father, is yet young and healthy, and may live—" "My lord! my lord of Monmouth!" said a voice outside the door.—"And may live long enough to—" Monmouth was continuing, without heeding the interruption, when the door flew open so suddenly that it seemed almost to have burst the lock. "My lord of Monmouth!" "What, Helsham! Has anything befallen? Speak, sir!—Has any misfortune—" All the exiles rose, alarmed; and Monmouth continued to gaze upon the Scot with a look of intense and undefined anxiety. The latter, meanwhile, seemed collecting himself to deliver his news with suitable calmness. "May it please your grace," he said, at length, with a voice of which every sound was drunk in a thirsty stillness—"may it please your grace to pardon me for being the bearer of the saddest news that has filled your ears or mine for many a year—" "Lady H.!" cried Monmouth, about to hurry from the chamber. "Hold, my lord! she is well—at least I know of nothing to the contrary. Alas! my lord, forgive me for saying the blow is heavier far than any which could light upon your own immediate household. Your royal father, my lord—" "What of him, Helsham? How is he?" "As our hopes are—in his grave. The king, my lord, is dead!" Monmouth sickened, reeled, and leaned on the shoulder of Lord Grey for aid. Universal dismay and consternation seized upon the circle. It was some moments before Monmouth could recover sufficient composure to inquire into the particulars of this blasting news. Half terrified

for the consequences to himself—half smitten at the heart by natural anguish, at the loss of a parent who, even in his anger, was a protector and a refuge—it was impossible for him to maintain even a moderate degree of self-command. "But how, Helsham?—how?" he asked, his countenance deadly pale, and every limb trembling as if struck with palsy;—"the king was well last week." "As many others were," said Helsham, "who now like him lie low. It is by this time public in the streets around us. The Power that gives life to monarchs and to clowns can only say why it is thus—we know but that it is so. He died of an apoplectic stroke, as the doctors called it, and with the duke at his bedside who now is James the Second." "Nay, then, all England's up!" exclaimed an exile. "Far from it. The new monarch and the commons draw together as if they never had a thought divided. So far as could be learned, no summer morning ever broke so fair as this new reign has done. Whether the weather will hold up or no, must take a longer head than mine to tell." "My kind friends," said Monmouth, slowly recovering himself, but yet in utter dejection, "this news has altered all our destinies. I have but one advice to give you, and I give it from my heart. It was I who drew you here, and filled you with those hopes that now are blasted. Forgive me for it, and disperse again to provide for your own safety. There is no hope left for us, or England either. Go, gentlemen—go you, my lords, and seek your own security. Forget the wretched Monmouth, who, but one half-hour since, thought he had already reached the point from which he might requite your services and love. My gratitude shall always follow you; I shall always bear in mind your zeal and honesty in the good cause, though now it be lost beyond all hope. Farewell, good friends! we cannot struggle against the Divinity which can baffle all our projects by strokes so sudden and so unforeseen as this."

Why does not Mr. Griffin give us another of his admirable Irish domestic stories? We venture a prophecy that he would repeat the success of "The Collegians."

*The Book of Christmas.* With Illustrations by Seymour. London, Spooner.

WE again notice this work, not only on account of its many merits, in a literary point of view, but because it contains some of almost the last, and, beyond all doubt, the best sketches ever produced by the talented artist, whose works will be appreciated by future generations. Many of these designs teem with poetry; we have looked at them until our thoughts fashioned themselves into his thoughts. We have seen but few things equal to the etching, entitled, "Story Telling;" there is a tale told in the picture. The moonbeams streaming through the ancient window—the portrait of the armed knight—the lady in her bodice and ruffles—the old screen, with its helmeted horseman—the furniture of the apartment—and the room itself, wainscotted and wide, and decorated with quaint carving, are all in admirable keeping. But the group is the gem. The old crone, seated in her high-backed antique oaken chair, the wide chimney, up which we can almost hear the fire roar—the listening black cat—the expression of the countenances of those drinking in the old woman's tale, standing upon a brink

"Betwixt the living and the dead,"—

even now we hear her talk, in a shrill squeaking voice,

"Of horrid apparition, tall and ghastly,  
That walks at dead of night, or takes its stand  
O'er some new-opened grave, and, strange to tell,  
Evanesces at crowing of the cock."

And just then the moonbeams fall upon the pale face of the armed knight, and the shrill wind whines through the long passages; and we look fearfully upon each other, expecting every moment that the grim warrior will leap from his dim gilded frame, and clank his armour upon the oaken floor.

To those who love the good customs of the olden time, this work will prove as interesting as an ancient picture-gallery filled with representations of the manners and costumes of centuries. To those who admire new fashions, it will point out the boundary which has separated the deep and simple rivers of ancient festivity from the swifter and shallower streams that now glide before them. Christmas of yore was a jolly old man, who sat down to his plum-pudding and roast beef, and smacked his lips in the glee of enjoyment, without knowing that the sound was vulgar. Christmas now is a slim gentlemanly looking fellow, who calls for his *côtelette à la Maintenon*, never laughs while he eats, and would not for the world lift a knife to his lips. But we are wiser now—are we happier? We are more polite—are we so hearty and honest? We laugh by rule, and applaud by measure: indeed our roofs are not built for those loud peals of merriment that shook those sturdy rafters, one of which a modern builder would convert into the roof of a mansion. But Christmas has not yet entirely vanished; we see the skirts of his hoary mantle, gleaming, cloud-like, in the distance, and know that there are yet a few hearths where, for once a-year, he finds a welcome. Neither can we wholly be without him while we have such a work as this to bring him before us. Read the following passage:—

"From the first introduction of Christianity into these islands, the period of the Nativity seems to have been kept as a season of festival, and its observance recognised as a matter of state. The Wittenagemots of our Saxon ancestors were held under the solemn sanctions and beneficent influences of the time; and the series of high festivities established by the Anglo-Saxon kings appear to have been continued, with yearly increasing splendour and multiplied ceremonies, under the monarchs of the Norman race. From the court, the spirit of revelry descended, by all its thousand arteries, throughout the universal frame of society—visiting its furthest extremities and most obscure recesses, and every where exhibiting its action, as by so many pulses, upon the traditions, and superstitions, and customs which were common to all, or peculiar to each. The pomp and ceremonial of the royal observance were imitated in the splendid establishments of the more wealthy nobles; and more faintly reflected from the diminished state of the petty baron. The revelries of the baronial castle found echoes in the hall of the old manor-house; and these were again repeated in the tapestried chamber of the country magistrate, or from the sanded parlour of the village inn. Merriment was every where a matter of public concernment; and the spirit which assembles men in families now, congregated them by districts then. Neither, however, were the feelings wanting which connected the superstitions of the season with the tutelage of the roof-tree, and mingled its ceremonies with the sanctities of home. Men might meet in crowds to feast beneath the banner of the baron, but the mistletoe hung over each man's own door. The black jacks might go round in the hall of the lord of the

manor, but they who could, had a wassail-bowl of their own. The pageantries and high observances of the time might draw men to common centres, or be performed on a common account; but the flame of the Yule-log roared up all the individual chimneys of the land. Old father Christmas, at the head of his numerous and uproarious family, might ride his goat through the streets of the city, and the lanes of the village; but he dismounted to sit, for some few moments, by each man's hearth: while some one or another of his merry sons would break away, to visit the remote farm-houses, or shew their laughing faces at many a poor man's door. For, be it observed, this worthy old gentleman and his kind-hearted children were no respecters of persons. Though trained to courts, they had ever a taste for a country life. Though accustomed, in those days, to the tables of princes, they sat freely down at the poor man's board. Though welcomed by the peer, they shewed no signs of superciliousness when they found themselves cheek-by-jowl with the pauper. Nay, they appear even to have preferred the less exalted society, and to have felt themselves more at ease in the country mansion of the private gentleman than in the halls of kings. Their reception in those high places was accompanied, as royal receptions are apt to be, by a degree of state repugnant to their frank natures; and they seem never to have been so happy as when they found themselves amongst a set of free and easy spirits, whether in town or country—unrestrained by the punctilios of etiquette—who had the privilege of laughing just when it struck them to do so, without inquiring whether, or caring how loud. Then, what a festival they created! The land rang with their joyous voices; and the frosty air steamed with the incense of the good things provided for their entertainment. Every body kept holiday but the cooks; and all sounds known to the human ear seemed mingled in the merry psalm, save the gobble of the turkeys. *There were no turkeys*—at least they had lost their 'most sweet voices.' The turnspits had a hard time of it, too. That quaint little book which bears the warm and promising title of 'Round About our Coal Fire,' tells us, that, 'by the time dinner was over, they would look as black and as greasy as a Welsh porridge-pot.' Indeed, the accounts of that time dwell, with great and savoury emphasis, upon the prominent share which eating and drinking had in the festivities of the season. There must have been sad havoc made amongst the live stock. That there are turkeys at all, in our days, is only to be accounted for upon the supposition of England having been occasionally replenished with that article from the East; and our present possession of geese must be explained by the well-known impossibility of extinguishing the race of the goose. It is difficult to imagine a consumption equal to the recorded provision. Men's gastronomic capacities appear to have been enlarged for the occasion, as the energies expand to meet great emergencies. 'The tables,' says the same racy authority above quoted, 'were all spread from the first to the last; the sirloins of beef, the mine'd pies, the plumb-porridge, the capons, turkeys, geese, and plumb-puddings, were all brought upon the board; and all those who had sharp stomachs and sharp knives eat heartily, and were welcome—which gave rise to the proverb,

'Merry in the hall, when beards wag all!'

Seymour's "Christmas Gift," &c. is a collection of the 35 clever productions which Seymour

executed for this work; his last complete performance in this line, and looking admirably in this form.

*Lane's Modern Egypt.*  
(Continued.)

To complete what we had intended for our last No., in illustrating the superstitions of the Egyptians, we have now to give place to the following extracts:—

"Gin'nees are believed often to assume, or perpetually to wear, the shapes of cats, dogs, and other brute animals. The sheykh, Khalee' El-Meda'bighee, one of the most celebrated of the 'ool'ama of Egypt, and author of several works on various sciences, who died, at a very advanced age, during the period of my former visit to this country, used to relate the following anecdote. He had, said he, a favourite black cat, which always slept at the foot of his musquito-curtain. Once, at midnight, he heard a knocking at the door of his house; and his cat went, and opened the hanging shutter of his window, and called, 'Who is there?' A voice replied, 'I am such a one (mentioning a strange name), the gin'nee; open the door.' 'The lock,' said the sheykh's cat, 'has had the name [of God] pronounced upon it.' 'Then throw me down,' said the other, 'two cakes of bread.' 'The bread-basket,' answered the cat at the window, 'has had the name pronounced upon it.' 'Well,' said the stranger, 'at least give me a drink of water.' But he was answered that the water-jar had been secured in the same manner, and asked what he was to do, seeing that he was likely to die of hunger and thirst: the sheykh's cat told him to go to the door of the next house; and went there also himself, and opened the door, and soon after returned. Next morning, the sheykh deviated from a habit which he had constantly observed: he gave to the cat half of the *fatee'eh* upon which he breakfasted, instead of a little morsel, which he was wont to give; and afterwards said, 'O my cat, thou knowest that I am a poor man: bring me, then, a little gold:' upon which words, the cat immediately disappeared, and he saw it no more. \* \* \*

"There have been many instances, in Egypt, of *wel'ees* afflicting themselves by austerities similar to those which are often practised by devotees in India. At the present time, there is living, in Cairo, a *wel'ee* who has placed an iron collar round his neck, and chained himself to a wall of his chamber; and it is said that he has been in this state more than thirty years: but some persons assert that he has often been seen to cover himself over with a blanket, as if to sleep, and that the blanket has been removed immediately after, and nobody found beneath it! Stories of this kind are related and believed by persons who, in many respects, are endowed with good sense; and to laugh, or express discredit, on hearing them, would give great offence. I was lately told, that, a certain *wel'ee* being beheaded, for a crime of which he was not guilty, his head spoke after it was cut off; and, of another decapitated under similar circumstances, that his blood traced upon the ground, in Arabic characters, the following declaration of his innocence—'I am a *wel'ee* of God; and have died a martyr.' It is a very remarkable trait in the character of the people of Egypt and other countries of the East, that Moos'lins, Christians, and Jews, adopt each other's superstitions, while they abhor the more rational doctrines of each other's faiths. In sickness, the Moos'lim sometimes employs Christians and Jewish priests to pray for him: the Christians and Jews, in the same predica-

ment, often call in Moos'lim saints, for the like purpose. Many Christians are in the frequent habit of visiting certain Moos'lim saints here; kissing their hands; begging their prayers, counsels, or prophecies; and giving them money and other presents.

"Almost all the *durweeshes* of Egypt are tradesmen, or artisans, or agriculturists; and only occasionally assist in the rites and ceremonies of their respective orders; but there are some who have no other occupations than those of performing *ziks* at the festivals of saints and at private entertainments, and of chanting in funeral processions. These are termed *focok'ara*, or *fackee'rs*; which is an appellation given also to the poor in general, but especially to poor devotees. Some obtain their livelihood as water-carriers, by supplying the passengers in the streets of Cairo, and the visitors at religious festivals, with water, which they carry in an earthen vessel, or a goat's skin, on the back. A few lead a wandering life, and subsist on alms; which they often demand with great importunity and effrontery. Some of these distinguish themselves in the same manner as certain reputed saints before mentioned, by the *dilk*, or coat of patches, and the staff with shreds of cloth of different colours attached to the top: others wear fantastic dresses of various descriptions. Some *Rifa'ee durweeshes* (besides those who follow the occupation of charming away serpents from houses) pursue a wandering life; travelling about Egypt, and profiting by a religious superstition which I must here mention. A venerated saint, called *See Da-oo'd El-Az'ab* (or Master David the Bachelor), who lived at *Tefahineh*, a village in Lower Egypt, had a calf, which always attended him, brought him water, &c. Since his death, some *Rifa'ee durweeshes* have been in the habit of rearing a number of calves at his native place, or burial place, above named; teaching them to walk up stairs, to lie down at command, &c.; and then going about the country, each with his calf, to obtain alms. The calf is called '*Egl El-Az'ab*' (the calf of *El-Az'ab*, or of the bachelor). I once called into my house one of these *durweeshes*, with his calf; the only one I have seen: it was a buffalo calf; and had two bells suspended to it; one attached to a collar round its neck, and the other to a girth round its body. It walked up the stairs very well; but shewed that it had not been very well trained in every respect. The '*Egl El-Az'ab*' is vulgarly believed to bring into the house a blessing from the saint after whom it is called.

"The water of *Zem'zem* is much valued for the purpose of sprinkling upon grave-clothes. An Arab, to whom I had given some medicine which had been beneficial to him, in the *Sa'eed*, during my former visit to this country, heard me inquire for some *Zem'zem*-water (as several boats full of pilgrims, on their return from *Mek'keh*, were coming down the Nile), and perhaps thought, from my making this inquiry, that I was a pious Moos'lim: accordingly, to shew his gratitude to me, he gave me what I was seeking to obtain. Having gone to his house, he returned to my boat, bringing a small bundle, which he opened before me. 'Here,' said he, 'are some things which, I know, you will value highly. Here are two tin flasks of the water of *Zem'zem*: one of them you shall have: you may keep it to sprinkle your winding-sheet with it. This is a *miswa'k* (a tooth-stick) dipped in the water of *Zem'zem*: accept it from me: clean your teeth with it, and they will never ache, nor decay. And here,' he added (shewing me three small oblong and flat

cakes, of a kind of grayish earth, each about an inch in length, and stamped with Arabic characters. 'In the name of God! Dust of our land [mixed] with the saliva of some of us', 'these are composed of earth from over the grave of the prophet (God favour and preserve him!) I purchased them myself in the noble tomb, on my return from the pilgrimage: one of them I give to you; you will find it a cure for every disease: the second I shall keep for myself; and the third we will eat together.' Upon this, he broke in halves one of the three cakes; and we each ate our share. I agreed with him (though I had read the inscription) that it was delicious; and I gladly accepted his presents. I was afterwards enabled to make several additions to my Mek'keh curiosities; comprising a piece of the covering of the Ka'abeh, brought from Mek'keh by the sheikh Ibrahim (Burckhardt), and given to me by his legate, 'Osma'n. A cake composed of dust from the prophet's tomb is sometimes sewed up in a leather case, and worn as an amulet. It is also formed into lumps, of the shape of a pear, and of the size of a small pear, and hung to the railing or screen which surrounds the monument over the grave of a saint, or to the monument itself, or to the windows or door of the apartment which contains it. No numerous are the charms which the Egyptians employ to insure good fortune, or to prevent or remove evils of every kind, and so various are the superstitious practices to which they have recourse with these views, that a large volume would scarcely suffice to describe them in detail.

"Another practice, which is often adopted in similar cases, but mostly by women, and frequently with the view of preventing barrenness, is very singular and disgusting. The large open space called the Roomeyleh, on the west of the citadel of Cairo, is a common scene of the execution of criminals; and the decapitation of persons convicted of capital offences in the metropolis was formerly almost always performed there, rather than in any other part of the town. On the south of this place is a building called Mugh'sail es-Soolta'n, or the Soolta'n's washing-place for the dead; where is a table of stone, upon which the body of every person who is decapitated is washed, previously to its burial; and there is a trough to receive the water, which is never poured out, but remains tainted with the blood, and fetid. Many a woman goes thither, and for the cure of ophthalmia, or to obtain offspring, or to expedite delivery in the case of a protracted pregnancy, without speaking (for silence is deemed absolutely necessary), passes under the stone-table above mentioned, with the left foot foremost, and then over it; and does this seven times; after which, she washes her face with the polluted water that is in the trough, and gives five or ten fud'dahs to an old man and his wife, who keep the place; then goes away, still without speaking. Men, in the case of ophthalmia, often do the same."

Reverting to the domestic habits of the country we would direct notice to the vessels, both described and engraved at pages 42, 43, &c., as those in which the Kohl paint, for ornamenting ladies' eyes, was used. It strikes us, that, in several collections of Egyptian antiquities, we have seen them mistaken for lachrymatories. Besides this, the females have another strange article in their toilet.

"The depilatory most commonly used by the Egyptian women is a kind of resin, called lib'an shah'mee, applied in a melted state; but this, they pretend, is not always necessary; by applying the blood of a bat to the skin of a newly

born female infant, on the parts where they wish no hair to grow, they assert that they accomplish this desire. A female upon whom this application has been made is termed 'moo-wut'wut'ah,' from 'wut'wa't,' a bat. \* \* \*

"Their hair, excepting over the forehead and temples, is divided into numerous braids or plaits, generally from eleven to twenty-five in number, but always of an uneven number: these hang down the back. To each braid of hair are usually added three black silk cords, with little ornaments of gold, &c. attached to them. They are called suft'a. Over the forehead, the hair is cut rather short; but two full locks (called muck'a'see's) hang down on each side of the face: these are often curled in ringlets, and sometimes plaited."

And, what must be tolerably amusing, they swear by these side-locks, as men do by their beards, "generally holding it when they utter the oath, wa-khany'a muckso'see!"

(To be continued.)

*Library of Anecdote. Book of Human Character.* By C. Bucke, Esq. Vol. I. 8vo. pp. 336. London, 1836. Knight.

MR. BUCKE, so favourably known to the public by his preceding works, has here employed much reading and reflection on the illustration of human character. His remarks are generally sensible and acute, and the apt references to many authors impart a literary charm to his volume. We select, however, only a few brief passages, to indicate its tone and some of its opinions.

"Men of talent, especially artists, are but too often loose and vicious, not only in their manners, but in their morals; those who cultivate their minds largely, however, are seldom so. Men's talent is but an equivocal possession, after all.

"Poets Unjustly Appreciated.—Virgil would have been esteemed a necromancer, had our ancestors had no opportunity of correcting the folly of the darker ages. Some insist that Virgil has not one attribute of a poet, but a pure and exquisite style: Lucan's beauties, in the opinion of some, are reduced to his love of liberty, generous sentiments, contempt of death, and his sublime personification of Jupiter. Virgil, according to some, moves like a prelate: Lucan, like a bold, victorious general; and as to Terence, he has no character, no plot, no incident, no wit. Style is his only merit; and his dramas were written only for mathematicians!

"Shall we turn to our own country? Some rank Pope no higher than the class of ingenious men; and as to Shakespeare, Hume appreciated him in a manner disgraceful only to himself. Napoleon, too, estimated him (and Milton) so entirely after the manner of a Frenchman in the reign of Louis XIV., that it is rather amusing than displeasing. 'I have read Shakespeare,' said he; 'there is nothing that approaches Corneille and Racine. There is no possibility of reading one of his pieces through. They excite pity. As to Milton, there is nothing but his invocation to the sun, and two or three other passages. The rest is a mere rhapsody.' Byron had little admiration of Shakespeare; and Pope almost as little of Milton. The opinion of Salmassius is that of an enemy; hence he could never be induced to regard Milton's Latin poems as worthy any one but a school-boy. In Germany, previous to 1764, the 'Paradise Lost' was so little known, and still more so little appreciated, that one of the most influential critics of that country presumed to speak of it in the following manner: 'Paradise Lost' had long mouldered in the bookseller's warehouse, so as scarce to be any longer remembered, when two persons, not more distinguished for their rank than literature, undertook to convince their countrymen of the excellence of that poem; and this they did so effectually, that England, for a long time, was brought to believe, or at least to say that they believed, what, without such powerful recommendations, they would never have thought of. This would seem to be a curious species of impertinence, could we forget, that some even of our own country have overlooked all Milton's beauties for the purpose of enlarging on his digressions, his allusions to heathen fables, his occasional pedantry, his Hebraisms, Grecisms, and Latinisms; his perpetual employment of technical terms; his episode of Sin and Death (the finest allegory in all poetry); the imperfections of his fable; his employment of old words; his elisions; the length of his periods and his idiomatic expressions; the occasional violence of his metaphors; and his obligations to Hebrew, Greek, Roman, and Italian poets. Not only his poetical character has been assailed, but his private one: and by whom? Warburton, bishop of Gloucester. It thus stands recorded in the Sloane Collection of MSS. (No. 4380), where I have myself seen it, and whence I extracted it:—The character of Milton was

certainly the most corrupt of any man of his age; I do not say so on account of his either being a presbyterian, an independent, a republican, for the government of one (for many honest men were in every one of these ways); but because he was all these in their turn, without (from any thing that appears to the contrary) a struggle or a blush. Imagine to yourself a thorough time-server, and you could not put him upon any task more completely conformable to that character than what Milton voluntarily underwent. It is true, he was steady enough in one thing—namely, in his aversion to the court and royal family; but this, I suspect, was because he was not received amongst the wits there favourably. Thus we find men, eminent once too, instead of calmly estimating the merits or demerits of others, employing the language of senseless encomium, or of extravagant censure; raising them to heaven, as it were, or thrusting them to hell; not from sound morals, but prejudice; not from reason, but passion.

"How many unworthy expedients have warriors and politicians resorted to! Tamerlane engaged the garrison of Haili to capitulate upon condition that no blood should be spilt. He kept his word. 'He buried them alive.' Mahomet II., at the taking of Negropont, promised a man to spare his head. He did spare his head; but he caused him to be severed through the middle of his body. Cromwell served Charles I. much in the same manner. He promised him, that not a 'hair of his head' should be hurt; nor was it hurt. Philip, Landgrave of Hesse, was, after the same manner, cheated by Charles V. by an ambiguity of words. Philip was taken prisoner at the battle of Muhlberg, and detained in confinement, in despite of a solemn convention to the contrary. Charles set him at liberty, and arrested him again without any pretext; and, when Philip's son-in-law, Maurice, elector of Saxony, remonstrated with him, Charles replied, that he had never promised not to arrest him again, but that he should not be kept in perpetual confinement. This memorable and disgraceful cheat was accomplished by the emperor's causing the words 'ewiger gefangnis,' instead of 'eigner gefangnis,' to be inserted surreptitiously in the treaty."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*The Peerage of the British Empire, as at present Existing, &c. &c.* By E. Lodge, Esq. London, 1836. Saunders and Odey.

A SIXTH edition of Lodge's Peerage, with a view of the Baronetage, requires only to be mentioned among the novelties of the day. The merits of the work are well known.

*Burke's Commoners of Great Britain, Part XIII.* London, 1836. Colburn.

CONTINUES the work with much interest and spirit. The present Part contains accounts of several families, respecting which public curiosity must desire all the information that could be given.

*A Statistical Account of the British Empire: exhibiting its Extent, Physical Capacities, Population, Industry, and Civil and Religious Institutions.* By J. R. McCulloch, Esq. Assisted by numerous Contributors. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 1322. London, 1836. Knight.

THIS is a very comprehensive and valuable work, exhibiting, as its title shews, all the great statistical features of the British empire. Its able editor, aided by such eminent persons as Mr. Bakewell, on Geology; Dr. Copland, on Climate; Sir W. Hooker, on Botany; Mr. Swainson, on Zoology; and Messrs. Merivale, Neate, Spalding, W. Farr, G. Coode, &c. &c. on other branches of inquiry, has produced such a mass of useful information as has rarely been found in a single publication. It is equally distinguished for industry and talent; and, in most of the papers, a freedom of judgment is exercised, which will, no doubt, provoke replication in the quarters to which they refer: such, for example, as the Zoological Society,—the immigration of Irish poor, &c. &c.—An Essay on the English language has only the fault of being too short, and not going further into the elucidation of so interesting a subject. But, without entering upon details, we may truly say, that this work is a library in itself.

*Transactions of the Institution of Civil Engineers.* Vol. I. 4to. Weale.

WE could hardly overrate the importance of

\* "A perpetual prison." † "Any prison."

this publication, which is altogether worthy of the eminent men who compose the institution (so much needed) from which it emanates. Civil engineering, at all times a science of infinite public value, has in our day far outgrown even its former gigantic proportions, and may truly be said to afford or constitute one of the principal elements of national greatness. The various subjects so ably discussed in these pages, harbours, docks, locks, canals, steam, bridges, iron, boring, railroad making, supply of water, and many other mechanical and philosophical questions, deserve the utmost attention. The engravings are numerous; and, when we look at the price, wonderful. The portrait of Thomas Telford, as a frontispiece, very appropriate. For students in the profession, the work is inestimable.

*Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. XIV. Part I.* Edinburgh, C. Black; London, Simpkin and Marshall; Dublin, Cumming.

PROFESSOR NAPIER is like a man who has got, with great labour and toil, to the top of the hill—the worst of the journey is over, and he descends rapidly and pleasantly. So, having, by his literary and scientific exertions, surmounted the labour and toil of this new edition, and, while so doing, lightened much of his future work, the learned Professor now goes on at a capital pace, and in full force and vigour. This part is an excellent specimen of the whole: Magnetism, Mammalia, Malta, Mathematics, and Mechanics, are the leading articles, and are ably treated. We may not make free with Free Masonry.

*The New Statistical Account of Scotland, Nos. IX., X., XI., and XII.* Edinburgh, Blackwood; London, Cadell.

Is these Nos. the counties of Dumfries, Inverness, Renfrew, Fife, Banff, Lanark, Ross and Cromarty, and Forfar, are examined and reported in the same very detailed and satisfactory manner as other counties of Scotland are in preceding Nos. There is not a parish in England but might take useful hints from the statements in these statistics.

*La Religion Expliquée Catholiquement, &c. &c.* 2 vols. 8vo. Paris, Hivert; Delossey; Bruxelles, Berthol; Genève, Cherbuliez; Londres, Dulau; Amsterdam, Legros et Imbert. Our foreign friends and publishers frequently pay us the compliment of sending their works; and it is but due to their politeness to give some account of them to the British reader. The present essay is one of primary importance, and a very conscientious and able attempt to defend the Christian faith from theological errors, and place it in its own immortal light before the contemplation of mankind. The references to the ancient fathers are full of learning and research.

*Etudes sur les Constitutions des Peuples Libres.* Par J. C. L. Sismonde de Sismondi. 8vo. pp. 436. Paris and Strasbourg, Treuttel and Wurtz.

THE distinguished name of the author is sufficient to recommend this volume to the attention of every statesman and politician in Europe. It is well worthy of it.

*Méditations Religieuses en Forme de Discours pour Toutes les Epoques, Circonstances, et Situations de la Vie Domestique et Civile.* Traduites par MM. Monnard et Gence, d'après l'Ouvrage Allemand intitulé, Stunden der Andacht. Tome Huitième, Prem. Partie. Idem.

WE have only seen this volume of the work. It is full of pious reflections and profound ob-

servations. In Germany, we are informed, the original is considered to be a complete code of civil and public duties belonging to the good Christian and good citizen.

*Encyclopédie des Gens du Monde, Répertoire Universel des Sciences, des Lettres, et des Arts; avec des Notices sur les Principales Familles Historiques, et sur les Personnages Célèbres, Morts et Vivants.* Par une Société de Savants, de Littérateurs, et d'Artistes, Français et Etrangers. Tome Septième, Prem. Partie. Idem.

THIS is also but an odd volume; and, unable to form upon it a whole opinion of our own, we venture to quote a passage from its prospectus:

"Ce nouveau volume termine la lettre C, la plus forte de tout l'alphabet. Le lecteur a maintenant devant lui plus d'un tiers de l'ouvrage: il lui sera facile de se former une idée juste du plan, du contenu et de la portée de cette publication, dont les éditeurs s'attachent à faire, en quelque sorte, un monument de notre époque, comme la grande Encyclopédie, aujourd'hui vieillie, ou au moins oubliée, l'a été de la sienne."

A number of celebrated names appear among the contributors; and, in dipping upon various points with which we are familiar, it appears to us that it is a dictionary not unworthy of their co-operation.

*Nouvelle Bibliothèque Classique; ou, Collection des Chefs-d'Œuvre de la Littérature Française, &c.* 2 vols. 8vo. Idem.

THE portion of the series before us, altogether a most interesting one and a very full repository of French literature of every description, consists of extracts and selections from moral writers. Pascal, Rochefoucauld, and La Bruyère, furnish its contents, not a page of which can be read without instruction and delight.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

### SOCIETY OF ARTS.

TUESDAY evening, Earl Stanhope in the chair.

—Mr. Ross, On the principles of optics, and their application to the construction of achromatic object-glasses. In the opening of his discourse, Mr. Ross pointed out a few of the difficulties which attend the manufacture of glass for optical purposes. So long ago as the last evening meeting of the Royal Institution, session 1829, and before it, we believe, Mr. Faraday did the same, in giving an account of the proceedings of the committee appointed on the subject; however mortifying it is, we have made but little progress in the manufacture, and are still obliged to resort to foreign aid. So difficult is it to make glass perfectly homogeneous,—free from bubbles, striae, veins, tails, &c., that only two such pieces have been manufactured in this country during the last seven years. Glass of very different specific gravities is frequently formed at the same moment, in the same crucible, by the presence of oxide of lead, &c. Mr. Ross handled his subject, in continuation of his former lecture, with much ability: his discourse, though not suited to *viva voce* description, might form a suitable adjunct to the papers of Barlow, Faraday, &c. in the *Phil. Trans.*, abstracts of which are scattered over the volumes of the *Literary Gazette* for the last eight or ten years. However lucid may be the lecturer, and acute the listener, it is impossible to carry away satisfactory impressions of an address, illustrated entirely by compound geometrical, mathematical, and algebraical phrases, as was the case in the instance before us. Achromatic aberration, dispersive colours, angle of deviation, inverse

ratio of dispersive powers, spectrum of converse lens, ratio of mean focal lens, reciprocal of focal lens, radii of curvature, index of refraction, ratio foci, ratio of the concave, ratio radii, compound focal point, longitudinal spherical aberration, indices of refraction, dispersive powers of the media, and many other phrases we might quote from memory, were that to the purpose, formed the materials with which Mr. Ross worked. On the society's tables were placed a rare collection of the most exquisite bronzes, intended to illustrate the workmanship of various ages; commencing with the antique Egyptian, then followed the Etruscan, the Roman, the middle ages, and, lastly, the modern.

### GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

SIR JOHN BARROW, Bart. in the chair.—Members were elected. The papers read were, first, Extract of a letter from Mr. Davidson, dated Glamis Wednesday, 2d November, 1836, in which the writer states that he had, on the above day, received a letter of the 27th Sept., which found him on the point of starting, for the fourth time, on his journey to Timbuctoo; he had, however, an opportunity of remaining where he was till Monday, the 7th November, of which he gladly took advantage, in hopes that his majesty's ship of war might probably reach the coast. Mr. Davidson goes on to state, that he had sent such instructions to the commander, under cover to the British consul at Mogadore, as would point out to him the position of the Foom Wad Drah, which place he had visited with Sheikh Beyrook. The map is but an indifferent guide: there is no such river as the Akassa; it is the Asaka, running near to the place whence the letter is dated. Between Wednesday and Glamis are two other rivers, not laid down at all—the Boukoukmar and Syad. The point at which Sheikh Beyrook wishes to form his port is the mouth of the river Drah (Foom el Wad Drah); which, according to Mr. Davidson's reckoning, is 32 miles S. W. of Cape Noon, and should occupy the place marked Akassa on the map. Mr. D. expresses his fears, that Sheikh Beyrook has far overrated his means, but not at all the capabilities of the country: he is confident that much may be done, in a commercial point of view, with these people, but he (the sheik) wants a better port than the Wad Drah; which river, rising a little S.W. of Tafilett, runs through the productive districts of Drah and El Harib, passing near to Tatta and Akka, skirting Lower Suse, finds its way to the sea through the fertile country possessed by the tribes of Drah, Marabait, Tasacari, and Ergelat. These people can furnish large quantities of produce, and would, according to their own account, be great consumers, could they purchase goods on more reasonable terms. They have in their hands the largest portion of the Soudan trade in gold, gum, ivory, and ostrich feathers. They rear large quantities of wool and skins, and the districts N. and E. of this, produce immense quantities of oil, wax, hides, and almonds.

The second communication was a paper on Asia Minor, by Mr. Hamilton, dated Smyrna, 24th October last. This is a detailed document, and reflects much credit on the writer's untiring industry in exploring so interesting a part of the world. We find it impossible, however, to present an analysis of it within our limits. It appears that Mr. Hamilton has travelled on horseback this year, 923 Turkish hours, or 2760 miles. In each hour he made, on an average, 20 observations

as to the line of road; making each observation with the number of minutes it contained, it gives 18,460: every evening he inked over his itinerary of the day. This, with the corrections obtained by latitudes, will enable him, he says, to construct a map of the country, not, indeed, complete, but better than any yet made public.

A third paper was an account of a spirited ascent to the top of the Peak of Teneriffe, by Mr. Leacock, of Madeira, in company with Mr. Veitch, his majesty's vice-consul at Madeira. The ascent was accompanied in one day, and that in the depth of winter—an exploit without parallel. Our adventurous countrymen arrived at Teneriffe in the middle of November. They were extremely desirous of ascending the Peak, but were assured by every body that it was quite out of the question at that season of the year, and that it would be madness to attempt it. Being determined, at all events, to go as far as they could, they hired horses, and told the men that they intended to go only a part of the way, as far as they could conveniently. The guide would not listen to the idea of going to the top; Mr. Leacock and Mr. Veitch, therefore, made their arrangements quietly, and started from Oratava about half-past four in the morning of the 28th November, and arrived at the *Primeira Estança* between nine and ten. The Peak here rises abruptly from an immense plain of pumice-stone: the sight was beautiful, the day was remarkably fine, and the sun was shining brightly on the snow on the top of the Peak. The travellers asked the guide if he would go with them, but he refused, and said he would not for all the world: money was offered him, but he still refused. They put on some additional clothes, without being observed, and then rode on as hard as they could, which was only a walk after all, and left the men behind. They rode the horses up the ascent till they could go no further, and then dismounted, leaving the horses to themselves. As Mr. Leacock and Mr. Veitch had no guide, they went straight up the face of the Peak, and got to the top between twelve and one o'clock: they climbed on the highest point, and gave three cheers; in the act of which, a stronger gust of wind than usual carried away Mr. L.'s cap in the air, and he saw no more of it. They descended into the crater, collected specimens of the scoriae, and of the sulphur, which was quite hot, and then made the best of their way down, and reached Oratava again, between seven and eight o'clock the same day. A letter from M. Schomburgk, dated Post Ohreala (B. Guiana), September 22d, 1836, to Captain Washington, was likewise received, in which he states, among other things, that what he has seen of the river Courantyne realises fully his expectations of its fertility, and its superiority to many of the rivers in British Guiana. The soil is diversified and rich, and the woods along its banks surpass many valuable timber trees.

After the reading of the papers, Sir John Barrow communicated the particulars of his interview (at the head of a deputation of the society) with Lord Glenelg; from which we learn, with great satisfaction, that the Colonial Department, as well as the Admiralty, is disposed to do every thing necessary to facilitate the expedition of Lieutenants Grey and Lushington into Australia. With such aid, and the instructions of so able an adviser as Sir J. Barrow himself, we certainly look for important results from this enterprise. A surveying vessel is, we understand, to carry out our gallant young countrymen, and then to

proceed to examine the hitherto unexplored portion of the north-west coast of Australia, about Dampier's Land; where, if any where, will most probably be found the outlet of some great river, which may give us access into the interior of this vast island. The examination of Torres Straits will also, it is believed, form part of this proposed survey.

#### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, Mr. Lyell, president, in the chair.—Four papers were read: the first, by Mr. Babbage, gave an account of certain impressions in the Farewell Rock, one of the lowest beds of the South Wales coal-measures. They are considered by the country people to be the marks of horses' hoofs; but the author, on carefully examining the impressions, found that the part which should have received an indentation from the frog was in relief, and rather resembled the frog itself. He alluded also to the frequent occurrence of similar impressions in the old red sandstone of Forfarshire, and there called kelpies' feet. In attempting to account for these marks, Mr. Babbage described some observations recently made by Mr. Lyell on the impressions left by *medusae* on a soft beach; and stated, that though Mr. Lyell did not find the resemblance so exact as to authorise the conclusion, that the sandstone-casts were due to animals of that description, yet, that it was sufficiently near to invite further observation, and to render it desirable to have accurate drawings made of the marks which different species of *medusae* may leave, when thrown by the tide on soft mud or sand.\* The second communication was an account, by Dr. Buckland, of silicified trunks of large trees in the lower portion of the *Poikilitic*, or new red sandstone series at Allesley, near Coventry. It has been long ascertained that the gravel which is so extensively distributed over that part of Warwickshire, contains in great abundance fragments of silicified wood; but their original matrix was unknown. In the spring of the present year, however, Dr. Buckland was informed by Mr. Bree, of Allesley, that part of a silicified tree, several feet in length, and a foot and a half in diameter, had been discovered in the garden of Mr. Gibson. On visiting the spot in October last, the author determined that the tree was imbedded, not in the superficial gravel, but in that portion of the new red sandstone of the district which consists of strata of indurated sandstone with interspersed quartz pebbles, and of conglomerates similar to those which occur in the lower division of this series in Cheshire, and many other countries. A short time since, another, but larger tree, was dug up and destroyed in altering a road near Allesley. On comparing portions of the tree in Mr. Gibson's garden, and which, it is worthy of remark, is carefully preserved in its matrix, with fragments obtained from the gravel, Dr. Buckland found so perfect an identity in mineral condition, as to leave no doubt that the latter were derived from denuded beds of the new red sandstone. The characters of the fossil wood were then described; and it was stated that all the specimens hitherto examined appeared to be referable either to *coniferae*, or to those compact woods in which no large vascular tubes or concentric lines are visible, and which

\* Besides similar forms observed in other parts of England, and upon which strange legendary traditions are founded, we may observe, that on at least one of the stone crosses at the Seven Churches in Wicklow, "the mare's" and "bull's footstep" are also remarkable, and afford full scope for a portion of the superstitions abounding in that spot. If we remember rightly, the material is a sandstone.—Ed. L. G.

now grow in regions where little or no check to vegetation is produced by changes of season. The value of the discovery to geology was also explained in reference to several kinds of fossil wood, which have been long obtained from beds of a similar nature in Saxony, particularly at Chemnitz, near Dresden.

Mr. Stokes then read some additional remarks on a partially petrified piece of wood, from a Roman aqueduct at Eilsen, in the principality of Lippe-Buckeburg, and discovered by M. Cotta, of Tharand. In a former communication, Mr. Stokes hazarded the conjecture, that the cylindrical petrified portions might be due to the wood having received an external supply of carbonate of lime to particular points, from stalactites formed in the building. Having, however, been recently shewn, by Mr. Robert Brown, a specimen of the same wood which afforded greater facilities for examination, he has ascertained that the petrified portions are not continuous cylinders, but spindle-shaped bodies, about two inches in length, and being completely surrounded by the wood, could not have been formed by stalactitic depositions. Mr. Stokes also mentioned Mr. Brown's having pointed out the remarkable circumstance, that, though the change in the longitudinal fibres of the petrified portions appears to be complete, yet the medullary rays preserve occasionally their ligneous state. In this additional specimen, the author likewise found that, in those portions which present the characters of sound wood, there is a greater quantity of calcareous matter generally diffused than in those which have undergone certain stages of decay, the line of separation between the two conditions of the wood being, in some places, remarkably well-defined. The communication concluded with some observations on the Allesley woods described in Dr. Buckland's memoir; and on the assistance which the specimens from the Roman aqueduct afford in investigating the first processes in the mineralisation of vegetable remains.

[Conclusion next week.]

#### MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

EARL STANHOPE, president, in the chair.—A paper on the *cucichunchuli*, by Sir Robert Kerr Porter, was read. This plant is the *Viola parviflora* of Mutes and Persoon, and the *Ionidium parviflorum* of Ventenat. It grows at the foot of the Chimborazo, at Cuenca, and at Curace, in the canton of Popayan. It is a powerful medicine, acting on the stomach, skin, bowels, and kidneys, and has been exhibited, with success, in cases of leprosy. In consequence, however, of the plant failing, the experiments have not been carried to any great extent, at present. A bag of Coca, and a piece of Llipa, the ashes of the Jesuits' bark, presented by Colonel Wilson, consul-general for Peru, were on the table. These substances were stated by Mr. Pettigrew to resemble those found in the mummy-pits of the Peruvian nobles, and persons of rank.

#### BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

DEC. 15.—J. E. Gray, Esq. F.R.S., president, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Donations of books and plants were announced, and a great many members elected, and others proposed. A paper was read by Dr. McIntyre, F.L.S., on the plants found about Warley Common, Essex, by which it appeared he had found about that place 340 genera, and 701 species. A paper was then read by Mr. G. E. Dennes, on the *habitats* of plants found by him about Deal and Walmer, Kent, in August and September last, confirm-

ing several stations given in Mr. Watson's "New Botanist's Guide." The meeting then adjourned until the 5th of January, when a paper will be read by the curator on the *habitats* of plants about Battersea Fields.

#### LITERARY AND LEARNED. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, Dec. 8. — The following degrees were conferred :—  
*Bachelor in Divinity*.—Rev. J. Cooke, Magdalen Hall.  
*Masters of Arts*.—Rev. G. B. Moore, Christ Church, grand compounder; J. J. A. Brown, University College; Rev. P. H. Symonds, St. Edmund Hall; P. D. Dayman, Balliol College; F. T. Pratt, St. John's College, incorporated from Trinity College, Cambridge.  
*Bachelors of Arts*.—R. Pitt-Gerald, Exeter College; P. Hull, Brasenose College; J. W. Roberts, E. Evans, Jesus College; G. D. Wheeler, Scholar of Wadham College; J. E. Wyndham, Oriel College.

#### ROYAL SOCIETY.

MR. LAWRENCE in the chair. — The Earl of Minto was admitted a fellow, and took his seat accordingly. A paper containing observations on the optical phenomena of crystals was read. The author of this interesting communication details many experiments, and their results : almost every one has viewed with pleasure these beautiful and varied optical phenomena. We notice one experiment—if nitre and gum Arabic are dissolved in hot water, and afterwards laid on a plate with sulphate of lime interposed, the most beautiful colours of polarised light are assumed—shooting into prismatic circles, not evanescent but permanent. By other experiments, rays of every description are obtained. Amongst the presents on the table was an ingenious silver acoustic instrument invented by Mr. Curtis, the king's aurist, called the *keraphonite* : it is fixed on the head for the purpose of collecting sound, which it does better than any contrivance hitherto employed. The one presented to the society was made by Savigny, and is remarkable for its beauty of workmanship. The instrument, if such we may call it, consists of a spring, which goes across the head terminating at either end in a small horn (hence, probably, the name), which rests on the ear.

#### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

MR. AMYOT in the chair. — Mr. Kempe exhibited a large cinerary urn, found in the Dissenters' burial ground, in Deveril Street, in the Dover Road; it is a fine specimen of Roman or British art, and, having been enclosed within a larger one, which was broken by the workmen, this was fortunately preserved entire. It was presented through Mr. Kempe to the British museum, with a mirror and a lachrymal bottle, discovered near the same spot. Lord Holland transmitted a letter from Mr. Wm. Hardy, of the office of the duchy of Lancaster, accompanying a copy of an original charter of Richard I. in that office, which Mr. H. considers decisive of the disputed question, as to the computation of the regnal year of that king, as it is dated between the demise of his father, and his own coronation; and he is there styled *Dominus Anglie*, not (as after that ceremony) *Rex Anglorum*; and he also uses the first person singular, instead of the royal idiom, plural, from which it appears that Richard did not assume the kingly dignity until his coronation, from which period his regnal year was computed, and not from the demise of his father. Sir W. Betham presented a printed copy of three papers lately read by him at the Royal Irish Academy, one on an astronomical instrument of the ancient Irish, lately found in Ireland; the second on the ring money of the Celts, and their system of weight, which appears to have been what

is now called Troy weight; and the third on the affinity of the Phœnician and Celtic languages, illustrated by geographical names in ancient geographers, &c. Sir Wm. mentioned the curious fact, that in a vessel which was wrecked last summer on the Irish coast, on her voyage from Bristol to Africa, were found a large quantity of pieces of iron, nearly in the form of rings, with the ends expanded and not closed, which were intended to pass as money in trading with Africans, and of the exact shape of some of the ancient ring money found in Ireland, in brass and gold. Mr. Bruce communicated copies of two documents relative to Sir Thomas More, from the Arundel MSS., one a petition of Sir Thomas's wife and children to the king; the other, the record of the indictment on which Sir Thomas More was tried and convicted. An essay, by Mr. Bruce, illustrative of these documents, was partly read, and the conclusion postponed.

#### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

*Monday*.—Statistical, 8 P.M.—British Architects, 8 P.M. Marylebone Literary (Mr. E. Cooper on the Manufacture of Paper), 8 P.M.  
*Tuesday*.—Linnean, 8 P.M. Lambeth Literary (Mr. D. Cooper on Cryptogamic Botany), 8½ P.M. Belgrave Literary (Rev. Mr. Mortimer on Antiquities of Egypt).  
*Wednesday*.—Society of Arts, 7½ P.M. Southwark Literary (Mr. Serle on the Language of the Drama), 8 P.M.  
*Thursday*.—Royal Society, 8½ P.M. Antiquaries, 8 P.M. Royal Society of Literature, 4 P.M. Islington Literary, 8 P.M. (Mr. Purday on Music, &c. and the 29th.)

#### FINE ARTS.

*An Essay on the Nature, &c. of Imitation in the Fine Arts.* From the French of M. Quatremère de Quincy, &c.

[Third notice : conclusion.]

WE proceed to the third and last portion of the Essay; namely, the Means of Imitation in the Fine Arts.

The first consideration is, what we are to understand by "means of imitation," according to the object and spirit of M. De Quincy's theory. They are not the means to which the idea of practical execution in any of the arts is usually attached: they are little else than the conditions necessary to imitation, in order to the attainment of its end, which is the ideal: they are to be found in the conventions on which that genuine species of imitation rests. These conventions are numerous; but resolve themselves into two principal classes, according to the greater or less degree of positive or ideal imitation affected in works of art. The one class may be termed practical, or theoretical; the other poetical—using that expression as synonymous with fictitious, and, consequently, with metaphorical.

"It is from poetical conventions," says our author, "that the artist derives the most numerous, and the most diversified means of effecting in the object, or subject, of his imitation, those great changes by which he freely disposes both his model and the manner of representing it. While practical or theoretical conventions are limited to certain alterations of detail, to some omissions, additions, or modifications, in some one of the parts of the imitative object, conventions of the poetical kind, by the changes they bring about, as well in the groundwork as in the form of every object, by embracing it in its totality, give to the artist the power of transforming things, actions, persons, and their discourse, according to another order of fitness, and in furtherance of another kind of truth. When we examine the practical and theoretical conventions, either in the necessity that gives rise to them, or in their effects, we

discover that their principle is the same in all the arts, since the existence of imitation depends on it. But as to effects, they are so closely related to each particular art, that they vary according to the mode of proceeding in each. It seems to me that with poetical conventions it is otherwise. Not only is their principle common to all the arts, but their consequences are applicable to all, with no other variation than that which attaches to the difference in kind of their images. They all alike derive from them the right of exchanging, in the conception, the invention, and the execution of their subjects, the appearances, the state of being, the external forms; in short, the elements of the world of realities, for those which constitute the ideal world that genius calls into existence. This exchange cannot be brought about but by certain operations of art, which consist in recomposing all the objects or subjects of imitation, with a view to, and in accordance with, the new part they are called upon to play. Whatever may be the quarter from which the poet selects his subject, he is bound to reorder the ground-work, the plan, the collective whole, and the details of the facts he would treat, to give to his personages another physiognomy, to place another character, to circumstances other relations, and to set forth causes and effects in such a light as to admit of their more easy comparison; he ought, not to betray truth, but, if one may so speak, to clothe it with new appearances, in conformity with the poetical conventions of imitation. The painter (as we shall shew hereafter) is equally under obligations to re-make all that belongs to the visible world; that is, to recompose the forms, the outlines, the relations, and the proportions of bodies; to modify their effects and colours, to change the locality of every scene, the incidents of every event, the traits of every expression; in a word, to exchange a local, individual, and limited kind of truth, for truth as viewed from on high and more at large. Elementary and theoretical conventions are slight deviations from the reality of things. Poetical conventions are means for operating in them a moral change. As the operations by which this recomposition is effected depend on the talent and genius of the artist, they are, in execution, necessarily allied to those faculties which are more especially the gift of nature, and which, though study and theory may add to them, they can never supply. There is, then, one branch of instruction which is wholly excluded from the theory of practical art. Whatever appertains either to the arts of industry, or to the mechanical part of the arts of imitation, may be reduced to rules, may be taught and learned. But beyond these commences the region of speculative theory, and its precepts are addressed to the understanding alone. Such theory reverts back to the principles from which all rules are deduced; it has in it nothing dogmatical. The means it lays open to the artist are rather lights to enlighten him in acting, than instruments to act with."

The act of generalising, and that of transforming or transposing, being the two principal conventions on which this theory of recomposition is based, are investigated at great length. We can give only a very few links of the chain of remark :—

"The idea of generalisation, in its application to the art of imitating, its operations, and its works, is very clear and simple, more especially when contrasted with the contrary idea, that of particularisation. To particularise, in imitation, is to express a subject, to represent an object, not scrupulously part by

part, which would rather infer its decomposition, but by whatever is particular or individual in the subject or object, that is, which causes it to be distinguished from every other. To generalise, as regards imitation, is, not only to express a subject, to represent an object, in its collective whole, but rather in the character belonging to the *genus* of that object. So that an object is particularised when, according to the order of things it is dependent on, it belongs to the individual rather than the species, to the species rather than the genus. The contrary is the case with an object that is generalised. There is no subject, no object of imitation, that does not admit of being considered by the artist in a similar light to that in which it strikes the mind or the eye of those who make up the great bulk of mankind. There are some persons, and those not few in number, who, be the matter ever so vast and extensive, perceive only the minor details, or the side most nearly accordant with limited acquirements and narrow views, thus degrading the idea or image of every thing to their own standard. There are others capable, not only of embracing the totality of the very same objects in their widest extent, and taking an enlarged view of things great in themselves, but who can, moreover, refer back things the most trifling to the grand principle on which they depend, and deduce from a particular object views the most general. Applied to imitation, this mental faculty undoubtedly tends to enlarge all images, in as much as, being formed by this operation of the mind, they acquire the property of signifying a much greater number of ideas, or ideas of a much higher order, than those attached to the image of the same subject when viewed under the limited relation of a single part, and with individuality of character. Poetry, or the art of writing, is in the highest degree favourable to generalisation, whether on account of the unlimited extent of images it has at command, or the facilities it affords for condensing them as much as possible. For a subject is at one time generalised by adding to it, at another by abridging it. To abridge, as here made use of, does not signify to diminish from the substance of a subject, but to reduce its intrinsic value within the smallest compass. Montesquieu says of Tacitus: 'He abridges every thing because nothing escapes his view.' Here we have the ideal operation. It is because genius embraces every thing, that it can restrict every thing. While an ordinary writer leads us on from detail to detail, each of which effaces in turn the other, the mind that generalises often places us by a single trait, and as it were by enchantment, on an elevated site whence the whole is displayed to view. \* \* \* As the object of generalisation is to bring together and unite many things, it can only be attained by simplifying them. To simplify, and to generalise, are therefore synonymous. Bossuet was enabled to condense his universal history into one volume, because he could refer a multitude of facts, and the revolutions of every empire, to their most simple idea, to a general fact embracing all others. The history of men and nations has since been detailed in a hundred volumes, which present to us universality without unity, and multiplicity without a collective whole. \* \* \*

"The act of generalising, applied to the arts of design, is concerned as well in the composition of subjects, as in the representation of the human body. As regards composition, the end to be kept in view, equally as in the conceptions of the poet, is to reduce the

most extensive and intricate subjects to the simplest, and, at the same time, most forcible expression they will admit of. Force and simplicity must not here be separated. The true value of every thought lies, no doubt, in its simplicity; but, be it understood, that it is this very simplicity that renders the thought more forcible. Painting, like language, is capable of expressing, by a small number of figures, what many would only serve to weaken. It has, moreover, its laconicism of form, as the poetry of language, that of words in those celebrated axioms deemed to be epitomes of the wisdom of ages. What but a summary of a theological treatise in painting, is that composition of Raffaello, in which Religion, elevated above the clouds, is seen pointing towards the earth, and indicating that the book which she holds closed in her hand, being that of the knowledge of divine things, is sealed from the curiosity of mortals? \* \* \*

"The act of generalising, and its effect, may be more easily comprehended in what is termed composition, and in those cases where the artist, frequently obliged to cast aside the details that would otherwise overload and obscure the principal action, generalises, without knowing it, when he brings out either the chief point of view in a subject, its cause, or its consequence. All these operations take place in passing from the compound to the simple, and in referring all ideas of a subject to one principal idea comprehending the details, (as the genus comprehends the species). But greater difficulty is experienced in conceiving, and rendering an account of, the same operation, as regards the imitation, properly so called, of the human body. In it the subject for imitation appears simple. In it, also, the model is presented as a whole, that is easily comprehended and defined. Yet this whole is a compound of parts, and the individual, as already remarked, is far from furnishing, in all those parts, that complete harmony of which corporeal beauty is the result. The artist is, therefore, obliged to subject all the forms of the individual to a critical comparison, founded on a knowledge of the type of absolute perfection. Hence we find that the operation of generalising is here, also, to be brought into play. Moreover, be the object about which it is concerned what it may, its action is ever the same, since it mainly consists in referring every idea, as well as every particular image, to its generating principle, to its own peculiar type or genus." \* \* \*

An analysis follows of the two customary phrases, "choice of forms," and "union of scattered beauties," in which it is attempted to be shewn that they are nothing more than an interpretation of the act of generalising, or a circumlocutory mode of expressing that intellectual process. We confess that we do not think M. De Quincy allows sufficiently for the agency of the senses in the process.

The act of transforming, or transposing, is now considered.

"In taking account of the act of generalising, understood as a means adapted for re-composing the objects and subjects of imitation, one cannot but perceive that this act is intimately linked in with that of transforming or transposing. There is, nevertheless, a very essential difference between them. In truth, though whatever is generalised undergoes a sort of transformation, yet all that is transformed is not therefore necessarily generalised; for the form of an object may also be changed by passing from the order of general images or ideas to that of particular images or ideas. Moreover, the act of generalising seems

to be applicable solely to that which constitutes the very nature of beings, the essence of things, the character of persons; in short, to that which changes or modifies them in their individuality: while the act of transforming or transposing embraces, in the operations of the artist who aspires to the ideal, both a greater diversity of points of view, and a much greater number of relations. Such, for instance, are all those changes that belong to the composition of subjects, resulting from the accessories that are combined by their personages, by associating with them fictitious or allegorical beings, and all those imaginative combinations whose effects, doubtless, contribute to generalise the objects of imitation, though by modes of proceeding wholly distinct, and which it is for theoretical analysis to develop separately. \* \* \* Those who feel surprised that poems are not composed on contemporary events, forget that poetry is an art, and that all art is fiction. When it is allowed that every subject may be rendered poetical, it is at the same time understood that every subject is capable of undergoing some transformation. The verification does not make the poem; and a history, because written in verse, is not the less what it was already. Now, it must be confessed, that in this case reality opposes a moral obstacle to the employment of fiction; viz. the reality of facts which one has been witness to, of persons with whom one is immediately acquainted. As the historical truth required of the poet is only conventional, so he in return requires only a conventional belief. But is it not reasonable to suppose that a thorough knowledge of the circumstances may counteract this compact on our part? How can we yield to a belief the contrary of what we know and see? \* \* \*

The act of transforming or transposing is certainly common to all the arts, and is, in all, a means of attaining to the ideal, their common end. But the springs of this act, that is, the means of producing it, differ in one art from another, according to the particular nature of each. For want of a due regard to this difference of nature, and consequently of means, numerous errors are continually committed, more especially in painting, or the arts of design. \* \* \* Thus, metaphor, by which the idea of the physical and sensible object is substituted for that of the moral or abstract being, serves in poetry as a kind of painting, which is addressed to the eye of the imagination, and seems to endow with corporeity things the most incorporeal. Poetry cannot display before our sight the angry man, and he is, therefore, described as with lightning flashing from his eyes. It cannot dazzle us with the brilliancy and whiteness of a beautiful complexion, and, therefore, it unites the lily and the rose on a beauteous cheek. Since it is inadequate to represent visibly the terrified man taking to flight, it gives wings to his feet." But, in the arts of design, although the same need to recur to the use of metaphor in order to the development of ideas, is experienced, poetical figures cannot for the most part be employed; "or, at least, not in the same manner and on the same subjects as in poetry, because the virtue of metaphors depends on the language peculiar to each art. Those, for instance, which in poetry are intended to render things sensible to the mind which language is inadequate to present to the eye, are no longer metaphors, but merely twofold applications in the images of an art which possesses the property of representing bodies, and the appearance of motion. Why give wings to the man that I see running

and hastening towards that vessel whose sails are already set? Why snakes on the head that is already expressive of envy? Painting is adequate to represent the positive and visible qualities of objects without any explanatory allusion. What need to superadd to the thing which is of itself visible that which is employed to supply the place of visibility where it is absent? Why explain what is intelligible in itself, more especially when the explanation is less clear than the thing it explains?"

Although thus opposed to the abuse of metaphor in the arts of design, M. de Quincy defends what he considers its use, "against the prejudices of those who, referring every thing to matter in the imitation of bodies, look upon every change of appearance wrought in the subjects or objects which the metaphorical system of art is fitted to deal with and modify, as a violation of truth." We fear that we are deeply imbued with some of these prejudices; and more especially with an aversion to the introduction in works of art of those allegorical and symbolical personages, on the proper management of whom M. De Quincy bestows much pains and ingenuity.

But we must stop. We cannot do so, however, without again strongly recommending the perusal of the volume to all persons of cultivated taste. At the same time, while we greatly admire the ability which it displays, we cannot (to speak elegantly) "go the whole hog" with its highly gifted author. There can be no doubt that the epic, whether in poetry, in sculpture, in painting, or in music, is entitled to the highest rank in the various productions of the fine arts—using that term in the extensive sense in which it is understood by our continental neighbours. But we deny that it ought—we will not say to entirely swallow up, for we will not do the author of the *Essay* the injustice to allege that such is his object—but that it ought to be as predominant as the advocates of what is called the sublime desire that it should be. As we observed in our remarks, in No. 1037 of the *Literary Gazette*, upon M. De Quincy's criticism on Teniers, there is a strong disposition in the school of which he is a member to inflate every thing. They remind us of Sterne's Gallican barber, who, instead of "dipping a wig in a pail of water," talked of "immersing it in the ocean." If they wished for an apple-pie, instead of merely flavouring it with, they would, in despite of the old proverb, make it entirely of, quinces. The assertion of such doctrine at the present moment, when in literature, in the fine arts, and in every thing else, all is *movement*; and when the ancient *prestige* in favour of the mysterious, the solemn, and the "classical," is constantly diminishing, is peculiarly infelicitous. But, were that not the case, under any circumstances, we own we contemplate with more than complacency the tone which the arts especially, in conformity to the taste of the English people, have of late years taken in this country; and should be very sorry to see exchanged, for cold and lofty abstractions, those vivid and pleasing pictures of real and familiar life that are calculated to cherish the domestic affections and charities; in which alone, after all, the real happiness of man is to be found.

We have not seen the original work; but it is evident that the duties of a translator—duties which, considering the peculiar and abstract character of the subject, must have been attended with much difficulty—have been very faithfully and ably discharged by Mr. Kent.

## ROYAL ACADEMY.

ON Saturday, the 10th instant, being the sixty-eighth anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Academy, a general assembly of the academicians was held at their apartments in Somerset House, when the following distribution of premiums took place, viz:—

To Mr. Douglas Cower, for the best copy made in the Painting School, the Silver Medal, and the Lectures of the Professors Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, handsomely bound and inscribed.

To Mr. Ebenezer Butler Morris, for the next best copy made in the Painting School, the Silver Medal.

To Mr. John Waller, for the best Drawing from the Life, the Silver Medal.

To Mr. John Garring, for the best Drawing of the Principal Front of Goldsmith's Hall, the Silver Medal.

To Mr. Conway Weston Hart, for the best Drawing from the Antique, the Silver Medal.

To Mr. George Mitchell, for the best Model from the Antique, the Silver Medal.

The president addressed the students in a short speech, expressive of the satisfaction which he and the other members of the Royal Academy felt at observing the ability displayed by the candidates, in the various classes of art. Among the students in the School of Painting, considerable talents had been shewn; and the copies which had been made in that school were so much on a par, that it was with difficulty a preference had been established. The efforts of the students of architecture were thought highly praiseworthy in the concurrent opinion of those who were more capable of judging than himself. He next slightly adverted to the department of sculpture; and he certainly experienced some regret, that in this so little of the spirit of competition had been evinced; there being but one specimen in each school. The drawings in the Antique school, under the able superintendence of the highly gifted artist (Mr. Hilton), whose productions had done so much for the arts in this country, had, hitherto, almost uniformly taken the lead in design; but, on this occasion, they must yield the precedence: not that they had receded from their usual station, but that the drawings from the living model had made so extraordinary an advance; manifesting an accuracy and a power in delineating the human figure, which, if followed up with proportionate improvement, could not fail soon to obtain for the British school the reputation which had hitherto been denied it, viz. that of correct design. Adverting to the removal of the Academy from Somerset House, the president advised the students to emulate the example of the many eminent men who had acquired their education under its roof; and to carry to the new academy, with increased ardour, the talents which they had displayed in the old; and he concluded, by heartily wishing them health to prosecute, and success to reward their labours.

The general assembly afterwards proceeded to appoint officers for the ensuing year, when Sir M. A. Shee was unanimously re-elected president.

*Council:* New List.—C. R. Cockerell, J. M. W. Turner, W. Hilton, and W. E. E. Esqrs.

*Old List.*—C. Stanfield, C. R. Leslie, H. W. Pickersgill, Esqrs. and Sir Francis Chantrey.

*Future in the Life Academy:* New List.—A. Cooper, J. Constable, C. L. Eastlake, G. Jones, and J. M. W. Turner, Esqrs.

*Old List.*—E. H. Baily, H. P. Briggs, W. Collins, and W. Mulready, Esqrs.

*Paintors in the School of Painting:* New List.—C. L. Eastlake, H. Howard, T. Phillips, and C. Stanfield, Esqrs.

*Old List.*—H. P. Briggs, W. Collins, E. Landseer, and C. R. Leslie, Esqrs.

*Auditors re-elected.*—W. Mulready, J. M. W. Turner, and R. Westmacott, Esqrs.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Harding's Portfolio, 1837. Tilt.*

WE have too often expressed our admiration

of Mr. Harding's merits as an artist, to render it necessary for us to say more with respect to the superb volume before us, than that it contains twenty-four picturesque and beautiful views; a third of them domestic, two-thirds of them foreign, and all of them manifesting that knowledge of effect, and of general principles, without which every other property of art, however specious, may be justly considered as mechanical and worthless. These views have the perfect quality and character of powerful and spirited drawings in sepia heightened with white.

*Logic.* Engraved by Welby Sherman, from an original drawing by C. H., Esq. Moon.

THIS whimsical print represents two furious syllogistic disputants, each with his bottle-holder, contending whether or not the Parisians are birds.

Omnes Parisii sunt Galli;  
Omnes Galli sunt aves;  
ergo  
Omnes Parisii sunt aves.  
Omnes Galli gallinarum sunt mariti;  
Omnes Parisii non gallinarum sunt mariti;  
ergo  
Omnes Parisii non sunt Galli;  
et  
Omnes Galli sunt aves;  
ergo  
Omnes Parisii non sunt aves.

The pun on the double meaning of *Gallus*—a cock, or a Frenchman—defies translation.

## BIOGRAPHY.

RICHARD WESTALL, ESQ. R.A.

It is with great regret we announce the death, on Sunday, the 4th instant, of this celebrated artist. With still greater regret have we heard that his death took place under circumstances of severe pecuniary distress. To persons who only know that he was, for many years, in the receipt of a large professional income, this will appear extraordinary; but those who are aware that Mr. Westall, some time back, was induced to accept bills to the amount of many thousand pounds, for a friend, which bills he was himself under the necessity of paying, will understand the case, and will sympathise with this additional victim to generosity, and misplaced confidence.

It is nearly half a century since Mr. Westall began to distinguish himself by his drawings in water-colours; a department of art peculiarly English, and in which he attained to a brilliance and vigour unknown until his day. When, as a young man, he called on the late Mr. Northcote, to shew him some of his drawings, that able and experienced judge expressed his high admiration of them, and his utter loss to conceive by what means they had been effected. He was the first who made finished pictures, in water-colours, of historical and poetical subjects. "Sappho in the Lesbian Shades, chaunting the Hymn of Love;" "Tubal, the First Voice of the Lyre;" "The Boar that killed Adonis brought to Venus;" "The Storm in Harvest;" "The Marriage Procession (from the Shield of Achilles);" and many others, must be in the recollection of all who are old enough to have visited the Exhibitions at Somerset House thirty or forty years ago. These were followed by a complete series of pictures in water-colours to illustrate the works of Milton, published by Alderman Boydell; and his pencil was likewise put in requisition to embellish other standard productions in English literature.

Mr. Westall's drawings were, at least in one sense of the term, exceedingly beautiful; and, for many years, they were highly attractive.

His delineations of the female form, especially, were replete with elegance and grace. It cannot be denied, however, that, seduced probably by his mastery over his materials, by the power and facilities of his process, and by a certain style which he had acquired of drawing the figure, Mr. Westall became what, in the arts, is called "a mannerist." One drawing succeeded another; all alluring, but all bearing the same character. We will not say that there was no truth in them; but in too many respects they were *finer* than truth.\* Mr. Westall was in painting what Dr. Darwin was in poetry; and the popularity of both artist and bard declined, as a more pure, simple, and masculine taste prevailed. As he advanced in life, Mr. Westall took to painting in oil; but, although in every thing he did he evinced great talent and great knowledge, he never could wholly abandon his youthful habits of art, which were even more injurious to him in oil than they had been in water.

From all that we have heard of Mr. Westall, he must have been a most kind and amiable man: a volume of poems proceeded from his pen in early life.

#### DRAMA.

*Italian Opera Buffa*:—*English Opera House*.—Signor Puzzi and Mr. Mitchell have opened this beautiful theatre for the winter, with a good and efficient company, for performing all the best *buffa* operas. On Saturday, the first night, we had Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*; Mademoiselle Blais playing *Adina*; Signor Catone, *Nemorino*; Signor Torro, *Dulcamara*; and Signor Bellini, *Belcore*. The opera was very well sung and acted, and gives great promise for the future. The house was well attended, and the opera has been twice repeated. This evening, Signora Luini and Signor Ruggiero, from La Scala, make their first appearance in London in *Il Furioso*, by the same composer. We cannot conclude without awarding the greatest praise to the charming Blais, or complimenting Signor Puzzi on the excellence of the orchestra he has selected. Signor Catone has a sweet organ, a tenor amply sufficient for this theatre.

#### VARIETIES.

*The Greenwich Railway* opened with a grand ceremony on Wednesday. The lord mayor and lady mayoress, the sheriffs, and other city authorities, met the directors on the occasion, and, with a very numerous assemblage of company, were carried to Deptford and back with great speed. We timed half a mile of the most rapid speed, and it was accomplished in 1 m. 27 seconds. On their return, several hundred visitors were entertained with a handsome breakfast-dinner; and every one seemed pleased with the first opening of a railroad by a lord mayor of London.

*The Fortunes of Peter Perilous* (published by W. Spooner), is another of the new games for holiday time. Spinning a tetotum, with eight figured sides, decides the fortunes of the gamblers, who get into good or bad positions, on a figured sheet, have to pay or receive forfeits; and, finally, either lose or triumph, as the fates decree. It is a pretty amusement for children.

*St. James's Ornithological Society*.—We rejoice to learn that this society is making good progress towards its establishment on solid foundations. The Duke of Sussex, the Duke

of Bedford, the Earl of Egremont, the Earl of Liverpool (president), and many other distinguished individuals, have come forward in a liberal manner to support it; and we have no doubt but that, in a few months, the fruits of its operations will be satisfactorily visible in the parks of London.

*British Association*.—We are informed that the next meeting of the British Association, at Liverpool, is likely to be appointed for the month of September. The assizes, held in August, would cause law to interfere with science, were that month adopted for the latter.

*Ashmolean Society, Oxford*.—Members were elected. Dr. Daubeny gave an account of the observations which he had made on several thermal waters in Germany this autumn, and noticed the recent discoveries of Ehrenburg, respecting the existence of infusoria in chalybeate springs, as well as in a fossil state in various rocks. He also exhibited some artificial minerals, which he had received from Professor Mitscherlich of Berlin, and a new apparatus for the analysis of organic bodies, invented by Liebig. He noticed, also, the observations on the earth's temperature, carried on at Brussels by Professor Quetelet, and gave an account of the public-spirited exertions of M. Vandermaelin, of the same city, who devotes his time and fortune to the gratuitous instruction of his fellow-citizens, and has brought together, for their improvement, a very extensive collection of specimens in all branches of natural history. Dr. Buckland read a letter from Mr. Cross, of Somersetshire, detailing some recent experiments. The phenomena of shooting stars having been mentioned at a former meeting, and it having been then suggested, that the University policemen would probably make a memorandum of any which might be observed by them, application was made to the superintendent, who immediately undertook the commission. Nov. 12 was a cloudy night, and no unusual number was seen, excepting from four to six on the morning of the 14th, when so many were shooting in different directions, that it was impossible to note them individually. — *Oxford Herald*. [We may add, that the same phenomena occurred in the north of Holland, where the observations of the astronomers confirmed those of the new- (ly employed) police of Oxford. To look after stars shooting, instead of robbers shooting, is whimsical enough. Would not Shooter's Hill be a good place for an observatory?—*Ed. L. G.*]

*French Mechanics' Institute*.—A society has been formed at Paris on the plan of the London Mechanics' Institution. It was first suggested by the celebrated geometrician, Monge, and the labour of instructing is principally confided to the students of the polytechnic school. Classes are organised to teach the principles of mechanics, optics, and all the branches of natural philosophy; as, also, the fine arts, grammar, and languages: each class is presided over by an advanced member; and the plan is so successful, that the society musters at the present time upwards of fifteen hundred members. Lectures are also given on *hygiène*, or the art of preserving the public health,—a study which enters into the routine of education in France, though not adopted in the medical schools of this country. About ten years since, Dr. Elliotson gave a course of lectures on the art of preserving health, under the title of State Medicine, or Medical Police. Lectures are also now in course of delivery on the same subject by Dr. Lichfield and Mr. Theobald, the barrister; but this

important study has hitherto failed to attract, in England, the encouragement which is bestowed upon it both by the government and the educational societies of France. — *From a Correspondent*.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

A new periodical, to be entitled, the Church of England Quarterly Review and Ecclesiastical Record, is announced for publication with the new year.

The Twelve Minor Prophets in Coptic, with a Latin translation, by the Rev. H. Tattam, M.A. F.R.S. &c., Rector of St. Cuthbert's, Bedford, has been very judiciously published by the University of Oxford, to which the work was, we believe, given by the author. We rejoice to hear that the same able scholar is now preparing Ezekiel and Daniel in the same way, from Coptic MSS. in the Royal Library in Paris. As the Coptic version of the Scriptures is supposed to have been made as early as the second century, every portion of it must be of importance to the Biblical student.

#### In the Press.

To be published by subscription, for the benefit of his widow, the Poetical Works (now first collected) of the late Thomas Pringle, with an enlarged Memoir and a Portrait of the Author.—The Americans, in their Social, Moral, and Political Relations, by Francis J. Grund.—A History of British Birds, by Mr. Yarrell, and a History of British Reptiles, by Mr. Bell, which works, with the British Fishes, now finished, and the British Quadrupeds, now in course of publication, will complete a uniform series of the vertebrate animals of Great Britain.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Practical Treatise on the Management and Diseases of Children, by Dr. T. Evanson and Dr. H. Maunsell, 12mo. 7s. 6d. cloth.—Elements of Phrenology, by George Combe, 4th edition, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Micrographia: Essays on Microscopes, by C. Goring, M.D., and A. Pritchard, 8vo. 8s. 6d.—A Vision of Death's Destruction, by C. J. Ouseley, 2d edition, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Cambridge Mathematical Problems and Examples, 1831 to 1836, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Introduction to the Study of Geology, adapted to Walker's Map, by F. Burr, 8vo. 4s.—Geological Map of England and Wales, by J. and C. Walker, 25. 2s.—Alphabet of Geology, by W. M. Higgins, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Arithmetic Unveiled, by James M'Dowall, 12mo. 5s.—M'Dowall's Musical Game in a Box, 15s.—Hints to Chaimers; or, Precepts for Presidents, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Mrs. Maberly; or, the World as it Will Be, 3 vols. post 8vo. 24s.—Rev. R. B. Paul's Journal of a Tour to Moscow in 1836, 12mo. 5s.—A Complete Treatise on Perspective, with 24 Plates, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Female Beauty, by Mrs. Walker, 12. 10s.—Pastoral Recollections, 18mo. 3s.—Live Jolly; or, the Duty and Means of being Happy, 18mo. 1s. 4d.—Lemare's Offerings for the Young, 1s. 6d. cloth.—Discourses by the late Rev. J. B. Patterson of Falkirk, with Life, 8vo. 3s. 6d.—Line upon Line, by the Author of "The Peep of Day," 18mo. 3s.—The Life and Persecutions of Martin Boos, an Evangelical Preacher, from the German, by the Rev. C. Bridges, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—The Solace of Song, with 12 Engravings, 14s.—The Duchesse de Valhiere and Mad. de Maintenon, by the Comtesse de Genlis, 2 vols. post 8vo. 10s.—Walpole's Correspondence with G. Montagu, &c. new edition, 3 vols. 8vo. 1l. 16s.—The Heart's Ease, by the Editor of "The Diadem," 32mo. 3s. 6d. bd.—J. Jennings's 2500 Practical Recipes in Family Cookery, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—The Cribbage Player's Text-Book, by G. Walker, 18mo. 3s. 6d.

#### METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1836.

December.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 8	From 38 to 45	29.23 to 29.16
Friday... 9	... 32 .. 41	29.08 .. 29.02
Saturday... 10	... 28 .. 42	29.11 .. 29.35
Sunday... 11	... 27 .. 41	29.45 .. 29.35
Monday... 12	... 22 .. 50	29.55 .. 29.31
Tuesday... 13	... 45 .. 48	29.22 stationary
Wednesday 14	... 32 .. 44	29.23 .. 29.49

Wind, S.W. Except the 9th and two following days, generally cloudy, with frequent rain; a heavy shower of hail on the evening of the 8th.

Rain fallen, .85 of an inch.  
Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.  
Latitude.....51° 37' 32" N.  
Longitude..... 3 51, W. of Greenwich.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Hood's Comic Annual*.—About 150 pages of this volume, for 1837, and copies of the prints, which we received on Friday, do not enable us to pay our respects this week as we would have done, if sufficient time had been allowed, to "Hood's Comic Budget." Of the engravings: "The Corn Question," trying to catch a horse with a sieveful; "Cartwright, a Finished Drawing," a fellow walking out with at least one tooth less; "A Dissenter's Marriage," an ugly bride vociferating "No!" are among the merriest fancies, but there are many good and queer enough. The prose and verse seem the likeness of the popular favourites of former years.

\* We beg M. Quatremère de Quincy's pardon: we are aware of our heresy.

## ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

**TO BOOKSELLERS, PRINTSELLERS, &c.**—The Advertiser (who has been six years in the business at one house, which he is now about to leave), wishes to obtain a Situation in the above line, in a respectable firm. A moderate salary will be required.

Address to T. F. W., Clarence Chambers, Haymarket.

## MR. BULWER'S NEW DRAMA, THE DUCHESS DE LA VALLIERE.

We are requested to state, that the Publication of Mr. Bulwer's new Drama, "the Duchess de la Valliere," is postponed to the 4th of January, on which day it will be issued by Messrs. Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, to Orders addressed to them, or their Agents in Dublin and Edinburgh, or to the Booksellers throughout the Kingdom.

## THE PERUSAL OF NEW BOOKS.

Library, Conduit Street, Hanover Square. Subscribers to this Establishment have peculiar advantages for their connection with an extensive Publishing Business, chiefly devoted to the production of the most popular Writers, and with which the Library is liberally supplied. Families resident in the same neighbourhood may unite in a Single Subscription, and may receive all the Newspapers for persons at any distance from town, and in any quantity, by a moderate Yearly, Half-Yearly, or Quarterly Subscription. Book Clubs are also supplied on the most advantageous terms. Applications (post-paid) for Catalogues and terms to Messrs. Saunders and Otley, Publishers, 50 Conduit Street, Hanover Square.

## SALES BY AUCTION.

SOUTHGATES' ROOMS.

## Books in Quires and Boards.

By MESSRS. SOUTHGATE AND SON,

AT THEIR WEEKLY SALE-ROOMS,

No. 39 FLEET STREET,

ON MONDAY, DEC. 19th, and FOLLOWING DAY,

Among which are, copies of *Pyne's Palaces*, 3 vols.; *London's Cyclopaedia of Agriculture*; *Todd's Milton*, 4 vols.; *Hansard's Tracts*; *Chalmers's Shakespeare*, 8 vols.; *Hume and Smollett*, 10 vols.; *Bloomfield's Digest*, 8 vols.; *Walker's Rhyming Dictionary*; *Burton's Rome*, 2 vols.; *Downe's Letters from the Continent*, 8 vols.; *Lardner's Cyclopaedia*; *Family Library*; *Peterborough's Abridgment*, 15 vols.; *Robert's Views in Spain*; *Life of Alpha Heber*, 2 vols.; *Baker's Livy*, 2 vols.; *Burns's Life and Works*, 2 vols.; *Gibbon's Rome*, 4 vols.; *Boswell's Johnson*, 8 vols., &c.

Specimens may be seen, and Catalogues had at the Rooms.

ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22d,

## Books, the Salvage from a Fire,

Consisting of English and Foreign Theology.

ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23d,

## Collection of Valuable and Standard Books,

IN QUIRES AND BOARDS.

MESSRS. SOUTHGATE AND SON

Respectfully announce, that they will sell by Public Auction, or by Private Contract (by Order of the Proprietors), early in January, the Entire Stock, Wood Engravings, and Stereotype Plates, of the Valuable Work entitled,

## The Guide to Knowledge,

Edited by MR. PINNOCK,

and to be completed the 31st of December, forming three thick handsome volumes, published at 10s. 6d. each.

To enlarge upon the merits of this very valuable Work, after the decided testimony which Public Criticism and Public Patronage have awarded to it, would in this place be superfluous. Suffice it to remark, that there has scarcely a subject in Arts, Science, and Morality, that has not been the topic of interesting discussion in its pages; and, where illustration has been necessary, no expense has been spared to furnish the desideratum. The following quotation, from the leading Literary Journal of the day, may be quoted in corroboration of these remarks:—  
"Astronomy and geography are especially rendered easy studies by it, in a style which would do credit to publications of ten times the cost. Natural history is also well treated, and the parts devoted to history, biography, and chemistry, the *belles lettres*, and useful arts and inventions, also exhibit a mass of miscellaneous valuations, which is Robert's estimation. The plates, and above all, the maps, are absolutely astonishing, as insignificant a price."—*Literary Gazette*, Nov. 30, 1836.  
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